

## **Tools for Lenten Faith Formation by Ginger Stemme**

We have been busy with clients getting ready for Lent. Established popular studies such as Living the Questions and Adam Hamilton DVD products remain available because we hold multiple copies. Give us a call to see if we can meet your needs. “Seven Words to the Cross; A Lenten Study for Adults,” by J. Ellsworth Kalas, Abingdon 2002 is a classic book study to consider. Each lesson includes a Scripture reference, a brief reflection, questions for study or discussion, a brief prayer and a focus for the coming week.

Recently acquired titles include “Hosanna, A Spiritual Journey through Holy Week,” a Kerygma Program Resource Book 2006, and “Igniting Worship Series; 40 Days with Jesus (Book w/Services and Video Clips on DVD), Abingdon Press 2006

“What’s in the Bible and How Do I Use It? Real Help for Regular People” Abingdon Press 2008, is a new basic reference book which could easily be used as a study guide for small groups. You’ll find maps, graphs, a chapter about Jesus and topics including how to choose a Bible, how to study your Bible, famous people and places. The intent is to show you how to find biblical help on real-life issues such as hope, love, anger, forgiveness, and even body image.

“The Jesus Creed; Seven Lessons on Loving God and Loving Others,” by Scot McKnight, (DVD 47 min., with study guide), Paraclete Press 2008. Scot, author of “40 Days Living the Jesus Creed,” uses biblical characters such as John the Baptist and Peter to explore themes important to every Christian: What are you living for? What has God called you to become? How is God calling you to compassion? This seven-week study is excellent for Adult and Young Adult spiritual formation.

“Another study by Scot McKnight is “Embracing Grace; A Gospel for All of Us” (Bk, , w/companion guide book) Paraclete Press 2005. Scot takes us beyond grace as forgiveness of sin. Our relationship with God was about grace before the first sin. Perhaps we are not to be saved by grace as much as live by grace.

“Servant or Sucker? Wise and Compassionate Ways to Help the Poor” (DVD 5 sessions approx. 10 to 15 min. each) EcuFilm 2008. This DVD helps viewers discern appropriate, Christ-centered actions when it comes to addressing poverty on a personal or organizational level.

“Three Simple Rules: A Conversation with Ruben P. Job” (DVD 50 min. 5 sessions - 8 to 12 min., w/guide) Abingdon Press 2008. Explore the best-selling book, Three Simple Rules, with author Rueben P. Job in five conversations designed for personal or small group study. A presentation of John Wesley’s General Rules invites us all into a more faithful way of living as a disciple of Jesus Christ.

“Embracing Aging: Families Facing Change” (as aired on ABC-TV), Mennonite Media 2007 (DVD 58 min.) focuses on the fact that “change and getting older are inevitable”

and helps explore how we can make it the best it can be, sharing insights on aging, housing choices, facing illness, and cooperating with siblings in the care of aging parents.

“Confronting Death; A Christian Approach to the End of Life with Walter Wangerin, Jr.” (DVD 57 min, w/guide) Paraclete Press 2008. “We are going to experience dying...the world looks away from that fact and tries to hide it as much as possible – but we as faithful people have the power and ability to look death straight in the eye and understand it.”

