

A 10 Session Study Plan for:
Radical Gifts
Living the Full Christian Life in Troubled Times
by Gene Marshall

Study Session Assignments

- Session 1. Preface & Ch 1: **What is Spirit?** pages 7-16
- Session 2. Ch 2: **What is Spirit Sickness and How is it Healed?** pages 17-28
- Session 3. Ch 3: **What Does Spirit Health Include?** pages 29-42
- Session 4. Ch 4: **What Reality in Human Experience
Do We Point to with the Word "God"?** pages 43-62
- Session 5. Ch 5: **What Does All This Have To Do with Jesus Christ?** pages 63-84
- Session 6. Ch 6: **What is Commitment to God, to Christ, to Holy Spirit?** pages 85-104
Notice that this assignment only includes to the first part of chapter 6.
- Session 7. Ch 7: **What Consequences Does this Commitment Have for
Ethical Thinking?** pages 117-121 *plus* **Appendix D: A Ch 7 Update on the
Commitment to Ethical Thinking** pages 238-246
- Session 8. Ch 8: **What Will Be the Coming Social Shape of the
Community of the Committed?** pages 175-195
- Session 9. Ch 8: **"The Emerging Leadership Styles"** pages 195-202 *plus* **Appendix E:
A Ch 8 Update on the Community of the Committed** pages 247-258
- Session 10. **Appendix A, B, & C: Prayer and the House Church Meeting
Reality, God, and Liturgical Language
Immortality, Reincarnation and the Spirit Self** pages 215-337

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A study plan

that can be used for each of the 10 Sessions:

**Each person is asked to read the text before the session
and do the exercises making notes
to talk about during the group session.**

Go-Round Question: What captured your interest in this reading?

A "go-round" means asking everyone in a circle arrangement to answer the question one after the other around the circle.

If anyone does not have a ready answer, pass on, and come back to them.

If the group is larger than 12, ask for responses from about 6 volunteers.

Overview: What Are the Main Topics of this reading?

Ask about 3 volunteers to answer this question.

Dig In: Prior to the Session select 3 passages to have read aloud.

After each reading ask about 3 volunteers to answer this questions:

How would you say this in your own words?

Then ask 3 more volunteers to answer this question:

How does this selection challenge you personally?

Exercises: Ask members of the group to share their work on some or all of the exercises listed at the end of the chapter.

Leave ample time for this sharing and discussion, at least 20 minutes.

The reading selections for Sessions 6-10 do not include exercises,
so for these sessions use the exercise outlines on the following pages.

For session 10, the exercise is the whole session.

Go-Round Question: What was Helpful to you about this Session?

Session 6 Exercises

Pass out some paper and pencils

List how you are experiencing your commitment to:

The **Profound Integrity** of commitment to God, the Holy Spirit?

The **Perpetual Growth** of commitment to God, the Human Offspring?

The **Comprehensive Affirmation** of commitment to God, the Awesome Parent?

Which of these three aspects of commitment are most confusing to you, or perhaps most difficult for you to embody?

What do you guess these difficulties or confusions are about?

Session 7 Exercises

With which of these three modes of ethical thinking are you most comfortable and say how: right-and-wrong principles, good-and-evil aims, or appropriate and inappropriate responses?

What is your edge thinking about moderating the climate crisis?

What is your edge thinking about promoting equity in wealth distribution?

What is your edge thinking about overthrowing authoritarianism with a fuller democracy?

Session 8 Exercises

How do the **Bioregional Parish** considerations help you clarify the *mission* of a next Christian practice?

How do the **House Church** considerations help you clarify the *nurture life* of a next Christian practice?

What are your interests and needs for doing **study together** in these three arenas:
sociological realization
psychological realization
spirit realization.

Session 9 Exercises

To begin the session 9 exercises, have everyone turn to page 256.

Let the leader read aloud the last paragraph on that page
plus the seven activities continuing on page 257.

Have each person study these over, and then mark 1, 2, & 3 by the three of these activities that you can prioritize as activities you might do or do most.

Then do a go round—asking each person to share their 3 choices and say why these were chosen as your top priorities.

Then have each person mark 7 by the activity you would be least likely do or do least.

Then do a go round—asking each person to share this activity and say why it is on the bottom of this list of 7 for you.

Discuss as a whole group reflections on this experience and on what it means for our group being and building a next Christian practice.

Session 10 Exercises

For session 10, it helps to combine the Deep Dig with the Exercises,
so here is an outline for that whole session:

Go-Round Question: What captured your interest in this reading?

Have read page 215, 3rd paragraph "In Christian Liturgy" through the top of page 216 ending with "world piece."

Pass our paper and ask each person to write a brief prayer of **intercession**.

Then have 3 of them read their prayer.

Have read page 216, 1st 2 paragraphs. ending with "freedom matters."

Ask each person to write a brief prayer of **petition**.

Then have 3 of them read their prayer.

Have read page 216, the last paragraph through the mid paragraph on 217 ending with "as a fresh start."

Ask each person to write a brief prayer of **confession**.

Then have 3 of them read their prayer.

Have read page 217, the last paragraph ending on 218 with "celebration of life."

Ask each person to write a brief prayer of **gratitude**.

Then have 3 of them read their prayer.

Have read on page 224 the translation of the 22nd Psalm:

Ask: What you found moving about this poetry? Receive 3 answers.

Ask: How did the changes in the original Psalm help access the old poem. Receive 3 answers.

Have read on page 225 and 226 the translation of the 90th Psalm:

Ask: What you found moving about this poetry? Receive 3 answers.

Ask: How did the changes in the original Psalm help access the old poem. Receive 3 answers.

Have read from the last paragraph on page 235 the end on the chapter on page 237

Ask: So what can you say about experiencing Eternal Life now: Receive 3 answers.

How does Eternal Life now help you to better understand cross and resurrection?

Go-Round Question: What was Helpful to you about this Session?

2nd Go-Round Question: What was Helpful to you about this Study?