

## Discernment Reading The Signs Of Daily Life Henri Jm Nouwen

The Soul of Discernment provides concrete steps for groups of people who work together and need to make important decisions: church sessions, nonprofit hiring committees, etc. Liebert calls this process the Social Discernment Cycle, a process for seeking God's call in a particular situation. "It is called 'social' because it deals primarily with human communities in their social-structural, rather than interpersonal aspects," Liebert explains. "It is a cycle because one completed round of discernment prepares for the next. The Social Discernment Cycle is particularly apt for any discernment that involves a structure, system, or institution." This book helps groups work through this cycle to answer the question, "How is God leading us, individually or together, to act in this particular moment in our organization?"

Richard Valantasis brings us a guide to the spiritual life for the smart seeker who wants to be fully attuned to God, interactive with other believers, connected to the wider world in which humans live, engaged with the physical universe, committed to service to the poor and disenfranchised, and, finally, postmodern. Adopting a literary device first used in the fourth century by the Desert Father Evagrius Pontikos, Richard Valantasis offers a "century" of spiritual texts—a hundred short essays from 800 to 900 words—on a hundred spiritual themes. Believing that "tradition is the action of the Holy Spirit making available the wisdom of the past in a new idiom and a time," Valantasis moves from the premodern spiritual world of the Christian tradition to the postmodern realities of our current world, and back again. Sample entries - Conversion - Sanctification - Incarnate Living - Discernment - Divine Indwelling - Union with God - Ennui - Progress - Holy Dying - Habitual Prayer - Thorns and Impediments - Praying the Bodies - Spiritual Direction - Emotional Ecology - Seeing Double - The Body Transparent - Temptation - Consolations - The Devil - Visions of Deification - Humility>

DiscernmentReading the signs of daily lifeSPCK

In unKingdom, Mark Van Steenwyk takes a hard look at the ways Christianity has become complicit in imperialism and genocide, particularly in North America. With a blend of humility, wit, and sharp critique, he proposes a prophetic way forward through practices of revolutionary repentance.

Offering an important corrective to a pain-averse culture that celebrates individualism and success, experienced preacher and teacher Matthew Kim encourages pastors to preach on the painful issues their congregations face. Through vulnerability and self-disclosure, pastors can help their congregants share their suffering in community for the purpose of healing and transformation. The book includes stories, shares relevant Scripture texts imparting biblical wisdom, and offers best practices for preaching on specific topics. Each chapter ends with discussion questions and a sample sermon.

Succesvolle Henri Nouwen klassieker in de vernieuwde reeks In dit boek denkt Henri Nouwen na over wat het betekent de beker van het leven te drinken: vasthouden, heffen en drinken, en verkent zo de geestelijke horizonten die zich door Jezus' vraag voor ons openen.

A new, original study of loneliness and friendship in the life and writings of Henri Nouwen.

A new translation of the Synoptic Sayings Source, Q.

In John's Gospel Jesus enters as an adult and issues an invitation: "Follow me." Those who accept the call find themselves on the journey of a lifetime. Disciples complain about not knowing the destination; they fret about finding the way. But place and path come together in a person, who identifies himself in a series of sayings distinctive to this gospel. Over time and in community, disciples take on the identity of the one whom they follow. "I AM" becomes "YOU ARE." Called to Follow examines the gospel's argument for discipleship by exploring how an attention to time, vivid encounters, probing questions, matters of identity, and practices sustain the journey and keep fellow travelers on track. Henri Nouwen, beloved author, priest and world-renowned counsellor and guide, understood the spiritual life as a journey of faith and transformation that is deepened by accountability, community and relationships. Although Henri counselled many people during his lifetime, his principles of discernment were never collected into a single volume. Now, in association with the Nouwen Legacy Trust, Michael Christensen - one of Nouwen's long-time students - and Rebecca Laird have taken his coursework, journals and unpublished writings and created the definitive resource on spiritual discernment. Discernment is the final volume in a trilogy of Nouwen titles. Spiritual Direction and Spiritual Formation are also published by SPCK.

Allan Aubrey Boesak, renowned theologian, anti-apartheid activist and politician, turned 70 on 23 February 2016 and in his honour a number of his friends, colleagues and students contributed to this festschrift. These essays can be regarded as academic commentary, impressionistic overviews or brief notes on the life and work of Allan Boesak. For much of his public life Boesak has been a controversial figure: for the politically oppressed during the apartheid years he represented their anger and resistance; for the politically dominant he was an irritant, a troublesome preacher. The contributors write with unconcealed admiration about Boesak's theological and political activism, leadership, eloquence and intelligence. His life and his formation as a black liberation theologian are recounted, often framed by the contributor's view of his "prophetic" calling. ÿ Overwegingen van de rooms-katholieke priester over de betrokkenheid tussen de mens en God en tussen mensen onderling, voortkomend uit persoonlijke ervaringen van de auteur.

My Door is Always Open is the complete and definitive set of interviews between Pope Francis and Jesuit priest Antonio Spadaro. In the summer of 2013, Pope Francis gave three extended interviews to Spadaro, the head of La Civiltà Cattolica (Catholic Civilisation), a Catholic periodical based in Rome, in which he spoke at length about his

background, his Faith, and his vision for the Roman Catholic Church. Here, at last, is the complete collection of the interviews with a full commentary by Spadaro, the interlocutor and commentator. In this compelling and engrossing dialogue, Antonio Spadaro introduces a Pope of great intellect and intelligence, who for the first time gives a rounded and substantial account of where he may lead the Roman Catholic Church in the years to come. Insightful and sincere, Pope Francis expounds upon the contemporary issues facing the Church, including the role of women and his experiences at the heart of Church governance, and he and Spadaro discuss at length the major issues facing religion around the world. Including accounts of Pope Francis' visit to Brazil for World Youth Week, *My Door is Always Open* is the first book written by the Pope since he was elected and is the most convincing and persuasive guide to Pope Francis's vision as one of the most charismatic figures of our time.

Michael Ford komt met een nieuw portret van Henri Nouwen (1932–1996). Daarin plaatst hij het leven van de wereldberoemde Nederlandse priester en succesauteur van spirituele boeken in de traditie van christelijke mystici als Teresa van Avila, Johannes van het Kruis en H. Theresia van Lisieux. Net als in zijn eerdere biografische schets *Wounded Prophet* (1999), volgt Ford in dit boek de levensloop, academische loopbaan en spirituele ontwikkeling van Nouwen. Hij focust daarbij op de levenslange worsteling van Nouwen met eenzaamheid, intimiteit en (homo)seksualiteit. Hij laat zien hoe Nouwen de inzichten uit zijn eigen 'donkere nacht van de ziel' gebruikt om de spirituele honger van zijn toehoorders en lezers te stillen. Dit is allesbehalve een heiligenleven omdat ook de schaduwzijden van deze bijzondere man op indringende wijze aan bod komen. *The Church and the World*, Vol. 2, no. 2 June 2013 The JMT focuses on Catholic moral theology. It is concerned with contemporary issues as well as our deeply rooted tradition of inquiry about the moral life. JMT's mission is to publish scholarly articles in the field of moral theology, as well as theological treatments of related topics in philosophy, economics, political philosophy, and psychology. The JMT is sponsored by the Fr. James M. Forker Professorship of Catholic Social Teaching and the College of Liberal Arts at Mount St. Mary's University.

For more than fifty years, Fr. Matthew L. Lamb has been one of the major figures in American Catholic theology through his writing, teaching, and involvement in scholarly societies. Over a decade ago, Fr. Lamb moved from the Department of Theology at Boston College to develop the graduate programs in theology at Ave Maria University in response to what he identified as the widespread decline in theological education. Twelve years into their operation, the graduate programs in theology have begun to produce junior scholars who have attained appointments in universities and seminaries across the United States. In *Wisdom and the Renewal of Catholic Theology*, Thomas P. Harmon and Roger W. Nutt have brought together some of this first generation of Ave Maria graduates to produce a collection of essays to honor their teacher and the architect of their theological education.

In our times hope is called into question. The disintegration of economic systems, of states and societies, families, friendships, distrust in political structures, forces us to ask if hope has disappeared from the experience of today's men and women. In August 2019, up to 240 participants met at the international theological congress in Bratislava, Slovakia. The main lectures, congress sections and workshops aimed to provide a space for thinking about the central theme of hope in relation to philosophy, politics, pedagogy, social work, charity, interreligious dialogue and ecumenism.

How do we make the most of life and the time we have? In the midst of our harried modern world, *Os Guinness* calls us to consequential living, reorienting our notion of history not as cyclical nor as meaningless, but as linear and purposeful. We can seek to serve God's purpose for our generation, read the times, and discern our call for this moment in history.

After Mr. and Mrs. B leave everything they have ever known and purchase a ranch on a worn-out cotton farm in Texas, they have great hope for a life of peace. But the relationship between the ranch's menagerie of animals is anything but peaceful, and Mr. B worries continuously about how he can stop the conflict. He finally turns everything over to the animals in the hope they will work together to make the B-Bar Ranch a success. The resident animals—cows, equines, pigs, chickens, and a big semi-trained cow dog—are thinking, talking creatures that see themselves and others as objects or farm animals and often demonstrate the worst characteristics of people in conflict. But when a sheep mysteriously appears and teaches them to regard one another like human beings who know God; have their own special hopes, needs, cares, and fears; and can choose to act of their own volition, they begin to realize peace on earth—and the ranch. This tale for all ages demonstrates that when people regard themselves and others as human beings, rather than objects or animals, they move from conflict toward shalom in their lives.

This book is a look at the spirituality of marriage through the lens of Christian spirituality. It will help you see how your faith and spirituality is lived out daily in your marriage, not just in the churchy activities you may attend. Through looking at grace, vocation, community, asceticism, incarnation, discernment, dying, and rising, you will see more fully the holiness of what you are already living in your marriage, as well as some ways that you can enhance and support that holiness. The term "holiness" may not be used that often when it comes to marriage, but when you begin to see God's presence everywhere, it is clear that your life is holy—that is, drenched in God—indeed.

Contrary to secular claims regarding the expulsion of religion, modernity does in fact produce unprecedented forms whose understanding re-casts the relationships between sociology and theology. This book explores 'irruptions' which disturb modernity from without: fragments or deposits of history that have spectral – or 'noir' – properties, whether ruins, collective memories, or the dark Gothic or the Satanic as manifested in culture. The study investigates what irrupts from these depths to unsettle our understanding of modernity so as to reveal its theological roots. A ground-breaking and extensive work, *Sociological Noir* explores literature, history and theology to re-cast the sociological imagination in ways that inspire reflection on new configurations in modernity. As such, it will have wide-spread appeal to sociologists and social theorists with interests in religion, theology and debates on postsecularism and culture.

2017 Catholic Press Association Book Awards, First Place: Spirituality (Soft Cover) Pope Francis has explicitly and repeatedly stated that discernment is essential for anyone who is a follower

of Jesus Christ. But what, exactly, is discernment? Why must we do it? When do we do it? How should we do it? In *Always Discerning*, Joseph A. Tetlow, SJ, delves thoughtfully into these questions and shares how lay Christians can implement discernment into not only life's big decisions but also into the everyday, more mundane choices we constantly find ourselves having to make. Guided by Scripture, Pope Francis's own words, and Ignatian spirituality, Fr. Tetlow helps us see that the dynamic interrelationship of head, heart, and hands is crucial to the discernment process. Ultimately, *Always Discerning* provides a powerful and highly practical way for the "people of God" to pray in the new millennium, while teaching us how to recognize God's will in every area of our lives and respond to it in joy and love.

*How to Do Mission Action Planning* (SPCK, 2009) was the first book to appear on the MAP process, at a time when it was beginning to have a significant impact. In this fully revised and expanded edition, the authors offer further critical evaluation and theological reflection, by drawing on the experiences of people who have been using the MAP process in different contexts from their own: Fr Damian Feeney, parish priest and Catholic Missioner of Lichfield diocese Canon David Banbury, leader of Parish Mission Support, Blackburn diocese The Rt Revd Dr Alan Smith, Bishop of St Albans Dr Stephen Hance, Canon Missioner of Southwark diocese Linda Rayner, the United Reformed Church co-ordinator for Fresh Expressions 'This is a rare book – a refreshing meditation on planning for mission – and one that is rooted in spirituality. As the authors show, the church and its mission arise from our vision of God. And once that vision has been realised, churches are able to become more intentional about their mission. Our vocation to share God's love is not an option or an afterthought. It is the heart and soul of our faith. Mission – and our planning of it – should not fill us with fear or foreboding. Rather, as the authors argue, the call to share God's love can be evermore meaningful, even as mission becomes more methodical.' The Very Revd Prof. Martyn Percy, Dean of Christ Church, Oxford 'This is a must-read for anyone using MAP. The rich theological reflection, the detailed unpacking of the 4 MAP phases and the learning offered by the 5 guest practitioners add up to an impressive offering. This book enables good questions to be asked, overflows with wise reflection and contains oodles of practical examples, ideas and resources. I commend it to all local church leaders who are seeking to discern how best to translate the prayer 'your kingdom come' into appropriate church and congregational action.' John Dunnett, General Director, CPAS 'This timely revision is honest, well researched and carefully put together - an important contribution to the necessary change of culture required in today's Church.' Julian Henderson, Bishop of Blackburn

By discerning our deepest desires, we discover our truest selves. Today's popular culture thrives on telling us what we should do and who we should be. We need to have the prestigious job, the perfect relationship, the jam-packed social life, and we need to show it all off on social media. But can achieving those things provide the fulfillment that we all long for? Is there something bigger and better out there waiting for us? Tim Muldoon has counseled countless young adults on this very issue. In *Living Against the Grain*, Muldoon offers a field-tested strategy for those facing a time of transition to help them discern their deepest desires and discover their true purpose in and for this world. Each chapter focuses on a crucial aspect of decision making, such as traveling the unpaved road, discovering your calling, finding inner freedom, and loving authentically. Throughout the chapters, Muldoon poses reflective questions that make the material both personal and practical. By engaging in the unique discernment process found in this book, you'll be wholly equipped to find the path you were meant to follow and become the person you were created to be.

The homily is a primary way that pastors and deacons can communicate how the whole parish community forms the catechumens. Many parishioners are not aware of their role in the Christian initiation process. In *Preaching Discipleship: Preparing Homilies for Christian Initiation*, Michael E. Connors, CSC, provides homilists and catechists with the tools to evangelize not only the catechumens present, but also to capture the imagination of the parish community so that they too realize their own role in the Christian initiation process. This resource will help the homilist: Build a homily Foster a deeper appreciation of the call to discipleship on the part of the assembly Instruct the assembly on their role in the Rite of Christian Initiation so that right from the outset the catechumens may feel that they belong to the people of God Bring the baptized and catechumens into a deeper personal relationship with the Lord Provide specific insights during the period of Mystagogy

The purpose and aim of this book is to develop an appropriate leadership model for missional churches. This implies a positioning of this book within the broader theology of mission and a consensus on the theology of the *Missio Dei*, originating at the 1952 conference of the International Missionary Council in Willingen, Germany. In this approach to the theology of mission, mission is understood as the work of the Trinitarian God, and the church is privileged to participate in God's mission. It is against this background that the growing consensus on missional ecclesiology challenges leadership models developed for a different time and a different kind of church (with less or no emphasis on the missional character of the church). The aim is to reflect theologically on the role of leadership in the missional church. What kind of ideas about power, authority and leadership are appropriate for a missional church? New missional challenges demand new ideas about missional leadership. Church organisation and leadership reflects a theological position – there is a strong relation between ecclesiology and church organisation. The nature of the church provides the framework to understand the character of the church. What the church is determines what the church does. The church organises what it does and agrees on rules that regulate ministries and organisation. Issues such as the way the church organises and governs what it does, and thus church leadership, need to be answered against this background and understanding. Church polity and organisation, as well as leadership, must reflect the identity, calling, life and order of the church. This book, therefore, addresses life in the Trinity, participation in the *Missio Dei* and contours of the missional church as the point of entry to develop leadership insights. It contributes towards the development of an appropriate model of leadership for missional churches, because although recent developments in the theology of mission comprehensively addressed the area of missional ecclesiology, there is a gap in the development of a leadership model based on the concept of authority in the missional church.

*Discernment: Reading the Signs of Daily Life* features the wisdom that spiritual leader and counselor Henri J. M. Nouwen brought to the essential question asked by every Christian and seeker: What should I do with my life? Nouwen emphasizes listening to the Word of God—in our hearts, in the Bible, in the community of faith, and in the voice of the poor as a way to discern God's plan. Although the late Henri J. M. Nouwen counseled many people during his lifetime, his principles of discernment were never collected into a single volume. Now, in association with the Nouwen Legacy Trust, Michael Christensen—one of Nouwen's longtime students—and Rebecca Laird have taken his coursework, journals, and unpublished writings to create this and other

books in the series exploring God's will for your life.

Are you often pulled in so many directions that you wonder if you are just overcommitted? Rachel Balducci, mom of six, has wondered the same thing. In *Overcommitted: How to Cut Chaos and Find Balance*, she gives us a solution to our frenzied days and a plan for achieving balanced, God-centered days.

This edited volume provides managers, as well as students, with the best practices in effectively leading the 21st century workforce and managing change. It applies positive principles arising from the newly emerging fields of positive psychology, positive change, and positive organizational studies to the field of leadership and change; offering managers strategies and tools to lead change effectively, in the present-day boundary-less work environment. At its most fundamental level, the uniqueness of this volume lies in its anchorage in the moral and spiritual dimension of leadership, an approach most relevant for contemporary organizations.

This 30th anniversary edition presents the unique approach of *Listening Hearts* to the spiritual practice of discernment for a new generation. Written to make the often elusive and usually clergy-centered spiritual practice of discernment accessible to all people, *Listening Hearts* features simple reflections and exercises drawn from scripture and from Quaker and Ignatian traditions. The seminal work in the *Listening Hearts Series*, this book has been a beloved resource for tens of thousands of individual readers, retreat participants, small groups, and church leaders listening for and responding to God's call in their lives.

Klassieker in een nieuwe uitvoering Henri Nouwen gaat in op de uitdaging van een vriend die hem vroeg: 'Hoe moeten wij, die allemaal doordrenkt zijn van de westerse, gesecculariseerde cultuur, nu een geestelijk leven leiden?'

*Gaudium et spes* (Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World) was promulgated on December 7, 1965. It mirrors a new spirit of openness of the Catholic Church to the world, as well as a new historical consciousness, based on a self-understanding of the Catholic Church as "linked with mankind and its history by the deepest bonds" (GS, 1). This historical consciousness resulted in a method of social discernment which, inspired by John XXIII, was articulated by *Gaudium et spes* in terms of 'scrutinizing the signs of the times' and of 'interpreting them in the light of the gospel' (GS, 4). Conscious of the need to revisit the pastoral constitution of Vatican II, the Centre for Catholic Social Thought at the Catholic University of Leuven, has organised two international expert seminars. The first expert seminar (6-7 September 2003) was rather explorative and focused on the relevance of catholic social thought in its actual context with special attention paid to the signs of the times in an era of globalisation. The discussion on the contemporary signs of the times revealed the necessity to clarify the theoretical and practical implications of the methodology of social discernment and particularly of a social hermeneutic in the light of the gospel. This became the theme of a second expert seminar (Leuven, Louvain-la-Neuve, 9-11 September 2004), the discussions of which are the background to this book.

Winner of the 2018 TGC Book Award for Christian Living "And God saw that it was good..." Look out over the world today, it seems a far cry from God's original declaration. Pain, conflict, and uncertainty dominate the headlines. Our daily lives are noisy and chaotic—filled with too much information and too little wisdom. No wonder we often find it easier to retreat into safe spaces, hunker down in likeminded tribes, and just do our best to survive life. But what if God wants you to do more than simply survive? What if he wants you to thrive in this world, and be part of its redemption? What if you could rediscover the beauty and goodness God established in the beginning? By learning the lost art of discernment, you can. Discernment is more than simply avoiding bad things; discernment actually frees you to navigate the world with confidence and joy by teaching you how to recognize and choose good things. When you learn discernment and develop a taste for all that's good, you will encounter God in remarkable new ways. Come, discover the God who not only made all things, but who will also make all things good once again. How can a church best respond when their priest tells them "I'm retiring," or "I've been called to another parish?" This book outlines to receiving a new ordained leader, recognizing that every parish is different. Discerning exactly what your parish needs can be both a challenge and a joy, and *On the Emmaus Road* affirms that you can listen to God's voice while attending to other day-to-day tasks. Based upon several years of doctoral research into the work of search committees in the Diocese of Virginia, this book has been refined through the experience of using its new methodologies in over seventy-five calls. With both traditional and creative new approaches to the clergy search process, Thorpe gives a wealth of resources for your parish to not only survive the days to come, but thrive in the midst of them.

In this book, Idara Otu, one of the new theological voices from Africa, rethinks ecclesiology in the changing context of a wounded and broken world. What does the Catholic Church in Africa look like post-Vatican II? This book creatively illuminates the intrinsic connections between ecclesial communion and social mission in the changing face of the church in Africa. The multiple levels of dialogue in African Catholicism, especially in the reception and contextualization of conciliar teachings, is redefining world Christianity. The author explores how dialogue, synodality, inculturation, leadership, human security, social issues, and social transformation are shaping the identity and mission of the church in Africa. This book also engages recent magisterial teachings and diverse theological voices in developing the praxis for the emergence of particular churches in Africa that are defined by the joys and sorrows of God's people. The book calls for a Triple-C church, revitalized through Conversion, Communality, and Conversation, as well as fostering integral and sustainable social transformation in Africa's contested march toward modernity.

A personal narrative that explores madness through the use of literature, art, and philosophy to achieve lasting mental health without drugs. "Twenty-two years ago, I lost my mind." So begins Jeanne Ellen Petrolle's fascinating personal narrative about her mental illness and recovery. Drawing on literature, art, and philosophy, Petrolle explores a unique understanding of madness that allowed her to achieve lasting mental health without using long-term psychiatric drugs. Traditionally, Western literature, art, and philosophy have portrayed madness through six concepts created from myth—Escape into the Wild, Flight from a Scene of Terror, Visit to the Underworld, Dark Night of the Soul, Spiritual Passion, and Fire in the Mind. Rather than conceptualizing madness as "illness," a mythopoetic concept assumes that madness contains symbolic meaning and offers valuable insight into human concerns like love, desire, sex, adventure, work, fate, spirituality, and God. Madness becomes an experience that unleashes extraordinary creativity by generating the spiritual insight that fuels artistic productivity and personal transformation. By weaving her personal experiences with the life stories and work of surrealist painter Leonora Carrington and modernist novelist Djuna Barnes, Petrolle shows how poetic thinking about severe

mental distress can complement strategies for managing mental illness. This approach allowed her, and hopefully others, to produce better long-term treatment outcomes. “This is an extraordinary book that combines meticulous literary scholarship with memoir. It bravely challenges us to reconsider and reframe mental illness, defined here as an ‘ultimate adventure in selfhood’ that connects to beauty, creativity, and the sublime. As it traces how skepticism of prevailing attitudes and treatments can save lives, *Dancing with Ophelia* is also, at its root, a deeply spiritual book that grapples with love, courage, ambition, and the idea of God.” — Aviya Kushner, author of *The Grammar of God: A Journey into the Words and Worlds of the Bible* “This book offers an interesting and engagingly written exploration of mental distress that draws on a range of literary and scholarly sources in combination with personal experience. It sits within the small, but growing, body of work that interweaves personal narrative with an academic analysis of ‘illness’ or disruption.” — Deborah Bowman, coauthor of *Informed Consent: A Primer for Clinical Practice*

Henri Nouwen’s compelling spirituality of the heart is at once simple and complex, accessible but deeply profound. For this Catholic theologian, whose ecumenical writings continue to inspire Christians of all denominations and levels of involvement, spirituality is, at its most basic, simply ‘attention to the life of the spirit in us’. Wil Hernandez’s sensitive distillation of Nouwen’s vast literary legacy invites us to take courage and be still, creating space for God and our true selves. It is in this place of trust and solitude that we discover our belovedness and our capacity to love God and others. A scholar and spiritual director intimately acquainted with Nouwen’s understanding of the spiritual life, Wil Hernandez offers an elegant synthesis of Nouwen’s main themes, inspiring us to embrace the power and vulnerability of mere spirituality.

Does anyone need to come out anymore? Queer theory has challenged the idea of coming out as problematic for its false binary and essentialized version of identity. If gender is a socially constructed performativity, then what does coming out mean? At the same time, we live in a society that still struggles with structures of power that define what is considered normal and sanctions those who transgress. The intersectionality of gender with race, class, ethnicity, nationality, abilities, religion, age and other positional markers challenge a simplified belief that coming out is not necessary. Therefore, in the lived experience of many persons coming out still matters. This book initiates a different theological conversation about coming out. It argues that rather than the declaration of an identity category, coming out can be understood as the erotic ethical practice of truth-telling. The formation of conscience and moral integrity embody the two pillars of this erotic practice. Coming out understood as "disruptive coherence" is the erotic ethical practice of truth-telling grounded in our deepest desires to be known authentically in community.

God speaks to us in the Bible so we can grow in holiness. With every reading, new understandings of our life with God emerge, and we will be better inspired to enjoy God’s many gifts for us. Some texts in the Bible evolved over decades; others did so over centuries. In fact, at least forty authors probably wrote the Bible over fifteen hundred years, and the texts aren’t always easily understood. This collection of homilies by Fr. Kevin E. Mackin, OFM, features drama, wisdom, and humor. They illuminate Advent and Christmas, Lent and Easter, and “ordinary time”; and they prompt the reader to contemplate and celebrate God’s gifts.

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