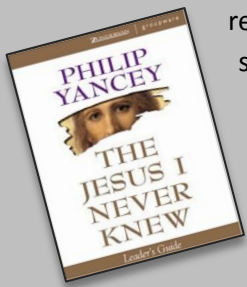


Winter Studies



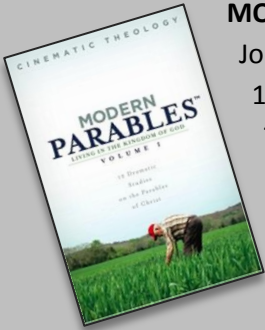
THE JESUS I NEVER KNEW: SIX SESSIONS ON THE LIFE OF CHRIST, John Yancey (Zondervan, 1998) Here is an older resource that I have started watching again, and it is still a good resource for our adults to be studying. While Philip Yancey's hairstyle is a bit out of date, his delivery and the information he teaches is still up-to-date and valuable to us as we read and study scripture. Yancey begins by using old movie clips and art from the masters to remind us of the many ways Jesus has been depicted in the past. I particularly enjoyed watching the somewhat offensive portrayal done by one actor, who continuously tossed his bangs off his forehead. Much of the video is filmed in Hollywood, which Yancey uses as an allegory. He points out that often we need more information to know what is true or to understand a story better.

The six-session study includes a Participant's Guide and a Leader's Guide that go along with the DVD. The DVD stops throughout for participants to have a discussion and think about questions Yancey has asked.

The Resource Center also has Philip Yancey's DVD study **WHAT'S SO AMAZING ABOUT GRACE?**

EVERYTHING IS SPIRITUAL, Rob Bell. (Flannel Productions, 2006) In the last Resource Center newsletter article (11/30/2017) I wrote about **NOOMA**, Rob Bell's very short videos about the nature of God and our relationship with God. **EVERYTHING IS SPIRITUAL** is very different from those. For one thing, it is long. The entire video is one hour, 17 minutes and 53 seconds. Luckily, it has been divided into seven sections, each about 10 minutes, so that you may listen and study in smaller increments. The video is about God's relationship to everything and everything's relationship to everything else. Bell starts with Genesis and the beginning of time on Earth. He continues through all of creation and how it relates to the Holy Spirit and each of us. Much of what he teaches us has been learned through science, a place Bell definitely sees God at work. This study would be good for older youth and adults. Not only would this be good for Sunday school, but it would make a great retreat study or evening program. Perhaps your members could watch the whole video one week, then discuss it the next as part of an evening program.

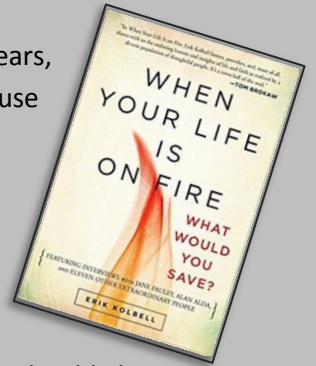




MODERN PARABLES: LIVING IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD, VOLUME 1 by Thomas Purifoy, Jr. & Jonathan Rogers (Compass Cinema, 2008) The study book that accompanies this video class offers 12 lessons – two for each parable. Parables offered are: 1) Hidden Treasure, Matthew 13:44; 2) The Samaritan, Luke 10:25-37; 3) The Shrewd Manager, Luke 16:1-9; 4) The Widow & Judge, Luke 18:1-8; 5) The Sower, Matthew 13:1-23; and 6) Prodigal Sons, Luke 15:11-32.

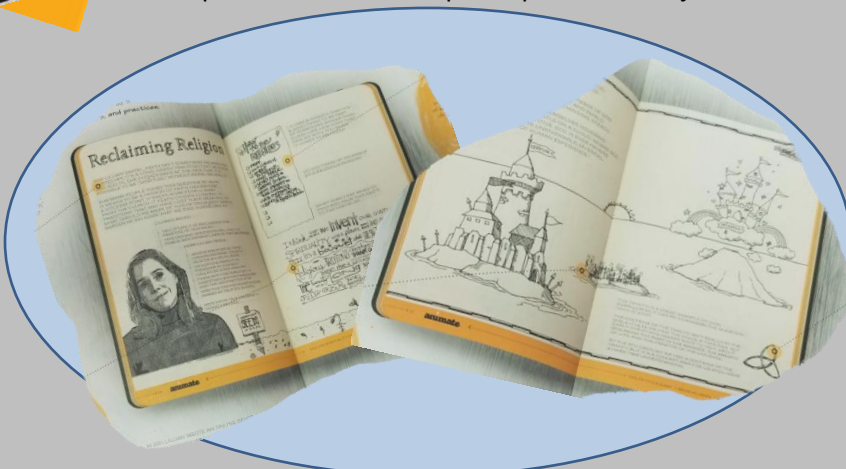
MODERN PARABLES includes a Leader's Guide, Study Book and DVD. These lessons would be good for youth or adults.

WHEN YOUR LIFE IS ON FIRE: WHAT WOULD YOU SAVE by Erik Kolbell (Westminster John Knox, 2014) Imagine an enormous house filled with everything you own – all your furniture, money, art, photographs, baby's first tooth, even your tax returns and diploma. This huge house is also filled with everything that you are, such as your beliefs, ideas, prejudices, likes, dislikes, fears, memories and faults. It does **not** include any other people. Now imagine this humongous house is on fire, and you only have time to save one item. Erik Kolbell put this question to the 13 people interviewed for this study. They include some famous folks, such as Alan Alda, Fred Newman and Jane Pauley, but also some not-so-famous people, like Catherine Kellison, a high school dropout who went on to teach at New York University, and Tao Porchon-Lynch, a 95-year-old yoga instructor and dancer, as well as a rabbi, firefighter and others.



At the end of each chapter are three questions for discussion, requiring plenty of thought; they should also invoke much discussion. This is a study for adults. Chapters range from 2 to 18 pages. Leaders might choose to allot the first 15 minutes of each class time for reading or reviewing the chapter before discussion. Some chapters might be combined. The only preparation for the class leader would be to read the chapter and think about the questions beforehand.

ANIMATE (SparkHouse 2012) Is your class looking for something different? Something to wake them up? **ANIMATE** is definitely different from our average study material. **ANIMATE** is a combination DVD and workbook study. The video includes a real-life human expert speaking casually to the viewer about a particular subject while animated drawings are being formed behind and beside the speaker. The drawings keep participants' attention on the screen. They also appear in the Facilitator Guide and the Participant's Journal. Each participant needs a journal. This study is definitely for adults.



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