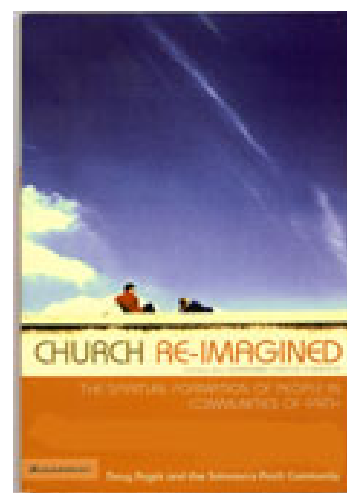
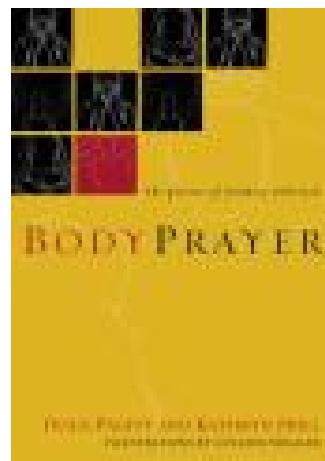


The Emerging Church officially got its start in the mid-1990's through Leadership Network. Leadership Network later became what is now called the Emergent Church.

Original leaders of Leadership Network: Doug Pagitt, Brian McLaren, Tony Jones, Andrew Jones, Dan Kimball and Chris Seay

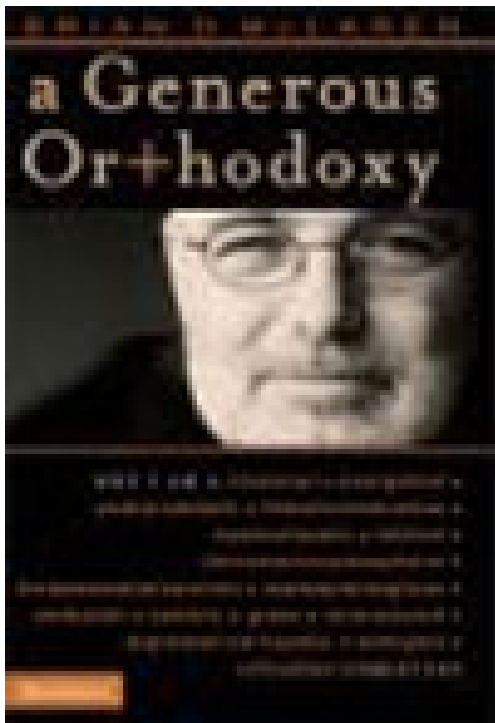
Doug Pagitt:

- ✚ "Pastor" at Solomon's Porch – "At Solomon's Porch, sermons are not primarily about my extracting truth from the Bible to apply to people's lives. In many ways the sermon is less a lecture or motivational speech than it is an act of poetry—of putting words around people's experiences to allow them to find deeper connection in their lives...So our sermons are not lessons that precisely define belief so much as they are stories that welcome our hopes and ideas and participation." "Our belief is built when all of us engage our hopes, dreams, ideas and understandings with the story of God as it unfolds through history and through us." (Faith Undone, Roger Oakland, pp. 41, 42.)
- ✚ In other words, let our experiences shape and mold our theology.
- ✚ Wrote Church Re-Imagined



Brian McLaren:

- ✚ Admits that the Emerging Church not only changes the methods, but also the message. (Faith Undone, p. 45)
- ✚ In 2005, Time magazine named Brian McLaren as one to the country's top 25 "Most Influential Evangelicals" (Faith Undone, Roger Oakland, p. 37)
- ✚ He wrote A Generous Orthodoxy, A New Kind of Christian, The Secret Message of Jesus, The Church on the Other Side and many other books.

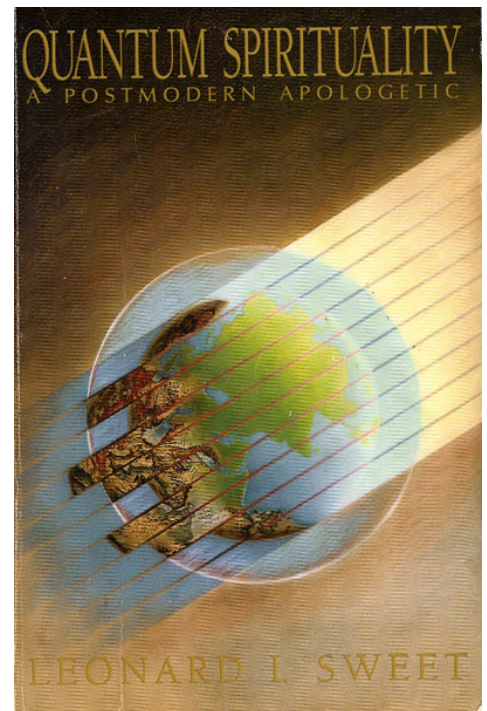


A Generous Orthodoxy

...the overly long subtitle gives the table of contents of the book: Why I am a missional, evangelical, post/protestant, liberal/conservative, mystical/poetic, biblical, charismatic/contemplative, fundamentalist/calvinist, anabaptist/anglican, methodist, catholic, green, incarnational, depressed-yet-hopeful, emergent, unfinished Christian.

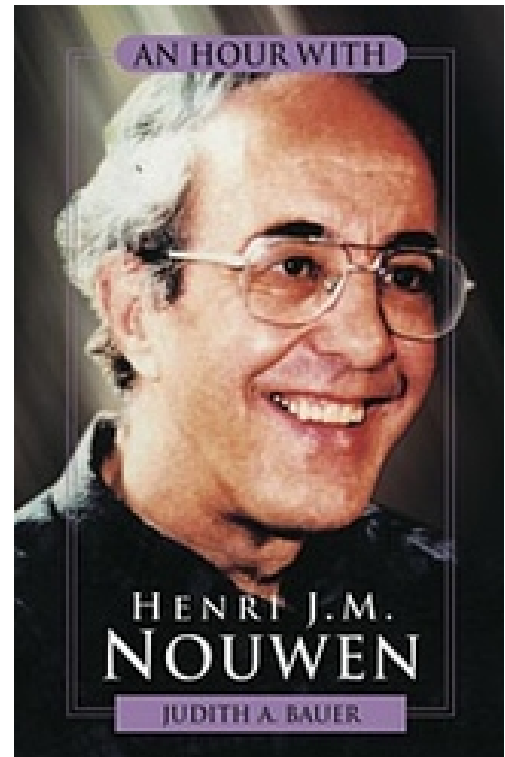
Leonard Sweet:

- ✚ Endorses many high profile New Agers and claims them as his greatest mentors in helping him in the “New Light Movement”
- ✚ Wrote Quantum Spirituality – “Too many people are nothing as our empty pews are shouting to us, because we give them neither an energy-fire experience of Christ nor the Christ of an energy-fire experience...Mysticism begins in experience; it ends in theology.” (Leonard Sweet, Quantum Spirituality, p. 76. Quoted from Faith Undone, p. 33.)
- ✚ “Energy-fire ecstasy, more a buzz than a binge, takes us out of ourselves, literally. That is the meaning of the word 'ecstatic.'” —(Quantum Spirituality, P. 93)
- ✚ “New Lights offer up themselves as the cosmions of a mind-of-**Christ consciousness**. As a cosmion incarnating the cells of a new body, New Lights will function as transitional vessels through which transforming energy can renew the divine image in the world, moving postmoderns from one state of embodiment to another.” (Quantum Spirituality, P. 48)
- ✚ Teaches union with the “True-self or Christ-Consciousness” within
- ✚ Roger Oakland – “Remember, at this time historically, the New Age movement has been radically introducing the world to eastern mysticism. Now a bridge is being built to those who profess to be Christian. The seduction of Christianity has now crossed a line that few would have believed possible a decade or so ago.” (Faith Undone, p. 34.)

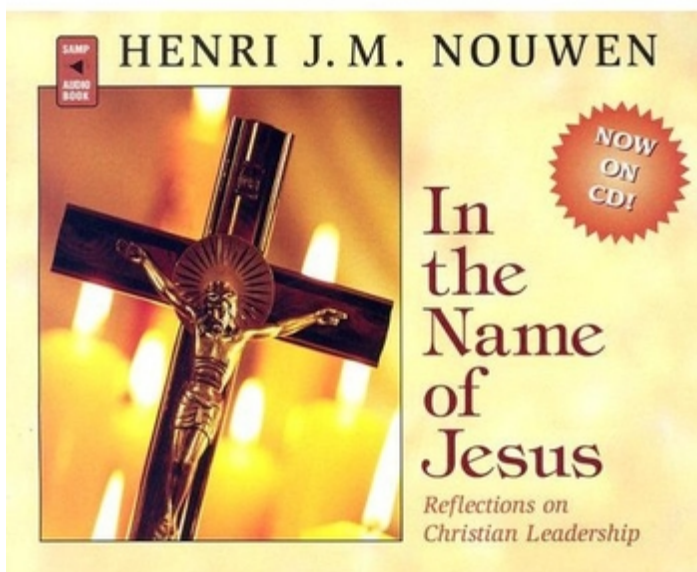


Henri Nouwen:

- ✚ Catholic priest and mystic – he died in 1996
- ✚ Henri Nouwen struggled with homosexual tendencies, and wrote a pro-homosexual online newsletter which was supportive of homosexual “Christians”
- ✚ Wrote In the Name of Jesus, Way of the Heart and Here and Now, (He wrote about 40 books on spiritual life.)
- ✚ “Today I personally believe that while Jesus came to open the door to God’s house, all human beings can walk through that door, whether they know about Jesus or not. Today I see it as my call to help every person claim his or her own way to God.” (Henry Nouwen, *Sabbatical Journey*, 1998, p. 51 Taken from <http://www.lighthouse trailsresearch.com/nouwen.htm>)
- ✚ Henry Nouwen studied the Desert Fathers, and he in turn is promoted in many Bible Colleges and Evangelical Churches
- ✚ Henry Nouwen is promoted by Rick Warren and many other



leaders - "Many pastors and professors are greatly attracted to his [Nouwen's] deep thinking. In fact, one of his biographers revealed that in a 1994 survey of 3,400 U.S. Protestant church leaders, Nouwen ranked second only to Billy Graham in influence among them." (A Time of Departing, Ray Yungen, p. 61)



Thomas Keating:

- ✚ Keating is a Catholic Monk
- ✚ Fr. Thomas Keating is a founding member and the spiritual guide of Contemplative Outreach, LTD.

... Fr. Keating is one of the principal architects and teachers of the Christian contemplative prayer movement and, in many ways, Contemplative Outreach is a manifestation of his longtime desire to contribute to the recovery of the contemplative dimension of Christianity.

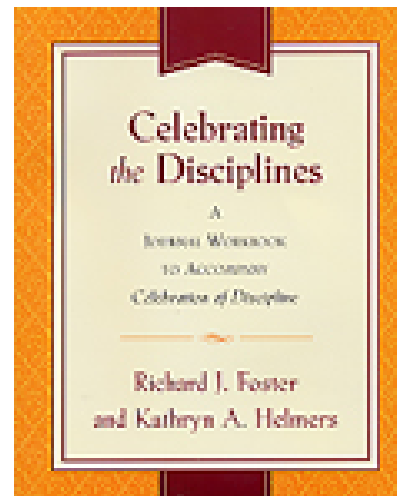
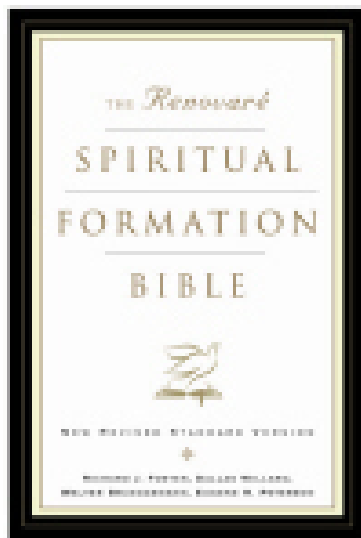
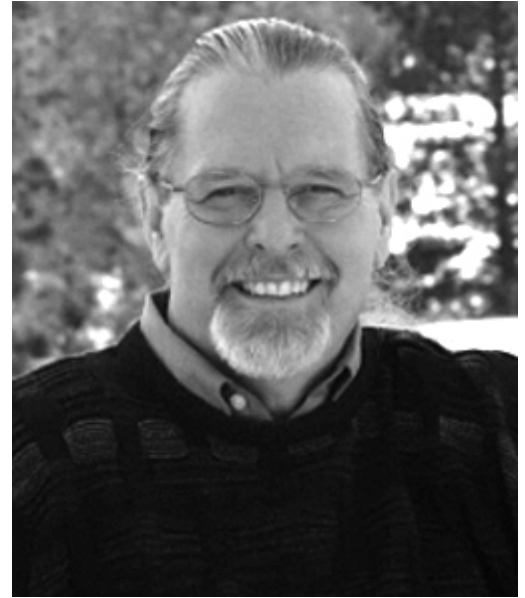
(http://www.contemplativeoutreach.org/site/PageServer?pagename=about_people_keating)

- ✚ “Contemplative prayer is not so much the absence of thoughts as detachment from them. It is the opening of mind and heart, body and emotions—our whole being—to God, the Ultimate Mystery, beyond words, thoughts and emotions.” (Thomas Keating, Open Mind, Open Heart, op.cit. online edition (<http://www.centeringprayer.com/OpenHeart/open02.htm>), chapter 1.) Faith Undone, p. 82.
- ✚ Started teaching Centering Prayer after learning mystical practices from Zen Buddhist and Hindu teachers
- ✚ Wrote: Finding Grace at the Center, Spirituality, Contemplation & Transformation: Writings on Centering Prayer, The Daily Reader for Contemplative Living, Journey to the Center: A Lenten Passage, Active Meditations for Contemplative Prayer and many more.



Richard Foster:

- ✚ Richard Foster is a practicing Quaker
- ✚ Wrote Celebration of Discipline, which has sold over two million copies and promotes Contemplative and Monastic practices
- ✚ Wrote the Renovare Spiritual Formation Bible, promoting spiritual disciplines
- ✚ Promotes Mysticism and practices of Catholic monks, even though he recognizes that this form of Contemplative prayer and meditation can lead one into the demonic realm. He suggests praying a prayer of protection prior to practicing it.
- ✚ His writings are used in many Bible Colleges
- ✚ **"[W]e must be willing to go down into the recreating silences, into the inner world of contemplation. In their writings, all of the masters of meditation strive to awaken us to the fact that the universe is much larger than we know, that there are vast unexplored inner regions that are just as real as the physical world we know so well. They tell us of exciting possibilities for new life and freedom. They call us to the adventure, to be pioneers in this frontier of the Spirit."** (*Celebration of Discipline*, 1980, p. 13.)
(<http://www.lighthouse Trailsresearch.com/fosterlinks.htm>)



Rob Bell:

- ✚ Pastor at Mars Hill Bible Church
- ✚ Rob Bell believes that biblical doctrine is flexible and always changing.
- ✚ Wrote Velvet Elvis: Repainting the Christian Faith, Sex God: Exploring the Endless Connections Between Sexuality and Spirituality, Jesus Wants to Save Christians and produced the Nooma videos used in many youth groups



- ✚ "...it wasn't until the 300s that what we know as the sixty-six books of the Bible were actually agreed upon as the 'Bible'. This is part of the problem with continually insisting that one of the absolutes of the Christian faith must be a belief that "Scripture alone" is our guide. It sounds nice, but it is not true. In reaction to abuses by the church, a group of believers during a time called the Reformation claimed that we only need the authority of the Bible. But the problem is that we got the Bible from the church voting on what the Bible even is. . . .When people say that all we need is the Bible, it is simply not true. In affirming the Bible as inspired, I also have to affirm the Spirit who I believe was inspiring those people to choose those books." – (Velvet Elvis, p. 68)
- ✚ "Heaven is full of forgiven people. Hell is full of forgiven people. Heaven is full of people God loves, whom Jesus died for. Hell is full of forgiven people God loves, whom Jesus died for. The difference is how we choose to live, which story we choose to live in, which version of reality we trust. Ours or God's." – (Velvet Elvis, p. 146.)
- ✚ "The goal of Jesus isn't to get into heaven. The goal is to get heaven here." – (Velvet Elvis, p. 148)
- ✚ Endorses New Age leaders: Ken Wilber and Marcus Borg in his book Velvet Elvis

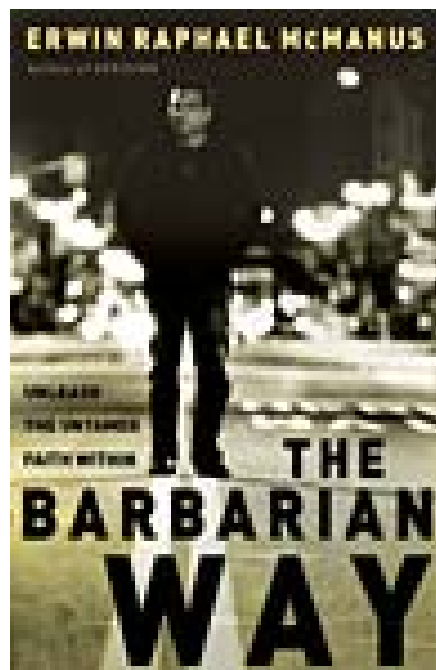
Erwin McManus:

- ✚ Says it is his “goal to destroy Christianity as a world religion” and also, “Some people are upset with me because it sounds like I’m anti-Christian. I think they might be right.”

<http://www.lighthouse Trailsresearch.com/erwinmcmanus.htm>

- ✚ Pastor of Mosaic Church
- ✚ Wrote The Barbarian Way, An Unstoppable Force, Chasing Daylight, Uprising: A Revolution of the Soul, Stand Against the Wind, Soul Cravings, and Wide Awake

- ✚ Erwin was saved as a young college student. “Since that day, he has not followed the road most traveled by many contemporary churchgoers. He has chosen the other-the less civilized one-following the path of Jesus in a passionate journey full of mystery, danger, and untamed faith.” (taken from his website talking about his book, The Barbarian Way, <http://erwinmcmanus.com/barbarianway/>)

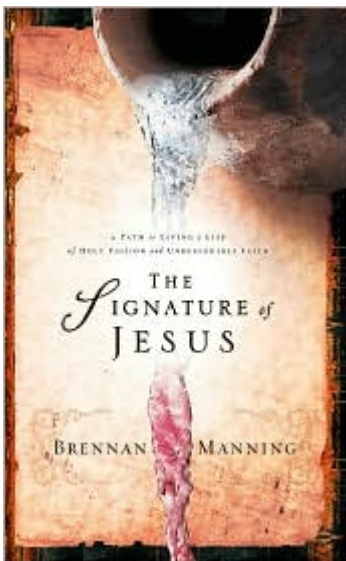
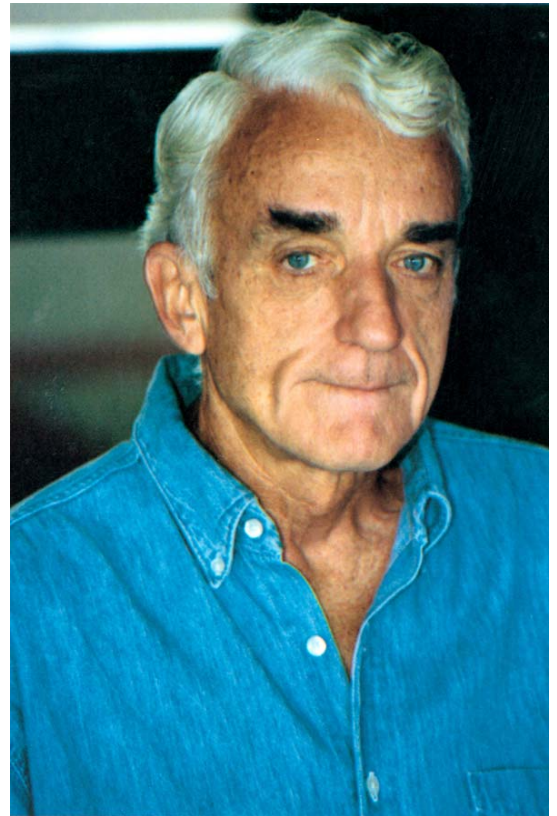


Brennan Manning

✚ Franciscan Priest

✚ Brennan describes Contemplative prayer in his book Signature of Jesus: "...the first step in faith is to stop thinking about God at the time of prayer. The second step, without moving your lips, repeat the sacred word [or phrase] inwardly, slowly, and often. The third step concerns what to do when inevitable distractions come. The answer is to simply return to listening to your sacred word." (Brennan Manning, Signature of Jesus, p. 218. Taken from article *From "Silence" to Sorcery* by Brian Flynn)

✚ "I am deeply distressed by what I only can call in our Christian culture the idolatry of the Scriptures. For many Christians, the Bible is not a pointer to God but God himself... God cannot be confined within the covers of a leather-bound book. I develop a nasty rash around people who speak as if mere scrutiny of its pages will reveal precisely how God thinks and precisely what God wants." -Brennan Manning, Signature of Jesus, pp. 188-189 <http://www.quoteland.com>



✚ Books By Manning Include:

Signature of Jesus

The Ragamuffin Gospel

Reflections for Ragamuffins: A Daily Devotional
Posers, Fakers and Wannabes

The Rabbi's Heartbeat

The Importance of Being Foolish

Organizations promoting Emerging Church and Contemplative Philosophy:

Youth Specialties:

- ✚ Started by Mike Yaconelli and Wayne Rice around 1970
- ✚ "Sharing many of the same spiritual affinities as Emergent, Youth Specialties hoped to help take the movement to the next level with more books, more conferences and more growth." (Roger Oakland, Faith Undone, p. 36.)
- ✚ They train over 100,000 youth workers world-wide each year
- ✚ They received hundreds of thousands of dollars in funding and train or supply resources for many of today's youth leaders
- ✚ In 2006, Youth Specialties was bought out by Zondervan

Shalem Prayer Institute:

- ✚ Started by Tilden Edwards – "This mystical stream [contemplative prayer and other monastic traditions] is the Western bridge to Far Eastern spirituality."
- ✚ The Institute trains leaders in Contemplative practices and spiritual direction

Zondervan Publishing Company: (As well as many other Christian Publishers)

Bible Colleges:

- ✚ A huge percentage of Evangelical Bible Colleges now promote Spiritual Formation and Contemplative practices

Contemporary Emergent Leaders:

Doug Pagitt, Brian McLaren, Richard Foster, Henri Nouwen, Leonard Sweet, Rob Bell, Erwin McManus, Tony Campolo, Brennan Manning, Thomas Merton, Rick Warren, Ruth Haley Barton, Thomas Keating, Dan Kimball, Dallas Willard

Quotes:

"A mystical prayer movement endorsed and actually initiated by Catholic monks (and accepted by Catholic leadership) should be alarming to any discerning Christian. Blanking out one's mind to arrive at a meditative state has long been practiced as a means of contacting the spirit world. While it is common to Eastern religion, it is foreign to Scripture; any references in Scripture to praying a mantra or going into self-induced altered states of consciousness are condemned (Matthew 6:7, Deuteronomy 18:9-14)." (Roger Oakland, Faith Undone, pp. 83, 84.)

"Without a good understanding of this belief system, you may miss the signs of the apostasy that are quickly overtaking so much of mainstream Christianity today." (Roger Oakland, Faith Undone, p. 90.)

"The spiritual formation movement is widely promoted at colleges and seminaries as the latest and the greatest way to become a spiritual leader. It teaches people that this is how they can become more intimate with God and truly hear His voice. Even Christian leaders with longstanding reputations of teaching God's word seem to be succumbing. In so doing, many Christian leaders are frivolously playing with fire, and the result will be thousands, probably millions, getting burned." (Roger Oakland, Faith Undone, pp. 91,92.)

Alan Jones. In his book *Reimagining Christianity*
"The Church's fixation on the death of Jesus as the universal saving act must end, and the place of the cross must be reimagined in Christian faith. Why? Because of the cult of suffering and the vindictive God behind it." (Alan Jones, *Reimagining Christianity* (Hoboken, NJ: Wiley and Sons, 2005) p. 132. Taken from *Faith Undone* by Roger Oakland, p. 193.)

"The other thread of just criticism addresses the suggestion implicit in the cross that Jesus' sacrifice was to appease an angry God. Penal substitution [the

Cross] was the name of this vile doctrine." (Alan Jones, Reimagining Christianity (Hoboken, NJ: Wiley and Sons, 2005) p. 168. Taken from Faith Undone by Roger Oakland, p. 193.)