

Faith Weavers

Book Review Group – Letters to Exodus Christians

March 28, 2010

Bill and Barb provided snacks for the meeting.

The group introduced themselves by talking about who have been role models and mentors to us throughout our lives. All shared about those who have brought lessons of service, humor, spirituality, patience, acceptance, faith, justice and love to our lives.

Discussed how the letters in the book have also provided examples of people and groups looking for role models and mentors within their spiritual journey. Discussed how Fr. Hays letters are helpful and also provide mentoring for those working their way through their own Passion experiences of dis-memberment.

Reflected that section I of the book includes Fr. Hays letters to individuals which encourages us by providing that “church” is too big and too important to be contained within a box or a limited and fixed set of rigid rules.

Reflected that section II of the book includes letters to faith groups which encourage us by expressing that Sacraments which have been chipped away at by the official church, are so much more powerful to us when we are able to live them on an everyday basis. We reflected on the leadership that we have had and have lost in our recent past (Bishop Kenneth Untener, Fr. Jeff Donner, etc.) and the challenges that the current leadership faces. We reflected that the current church leadership efforts to get people to “forgive and forget” may not be beneficial when it comes to such serious issues as abuse.

We reviewed a short film called “Passing” which provided another view on mentoring through action rather than words and of the importance of re-membering those who are most important to us.

Laura provided a copy of the “Shantivanam” Forest of Peace newsletter to participants. This newsletter is provided by the retreat center that Fr. Hays served for many years.

We closed our book review with a shared reflection prayer from Joyce Rupp’s “May I Have This Dance” as well as a shared communal blessing.

Next meeting of the book review group will be April 25, 2010 at 4:00 p.m. Mary will bring a snack for the meeting. We will be covering Section III of the book in our next meeting.