



Photo by James Gardner

Sunday, August 27, 2023

Culmore
United Methodist Church

Welcome and
Good Morning!

Happy Birthday

Once again it's your birthday. Once again the time is here.
What a loving gift from Jesus, He has given you one more year.
Happy time is your birthday, happy time this year.
What a loving gift from Jesus, He has given you one more year.
Oh happy birthday to you, oh happy birthday to you.
For you have Jesus Christ everyday of your life.
Oh happy birthday to you, oh happy birthday to you.
The Lord bless and keep you.
Happy birthday to you. And to Jesus with you.
God bless you and keep you. Happy birthday to you.

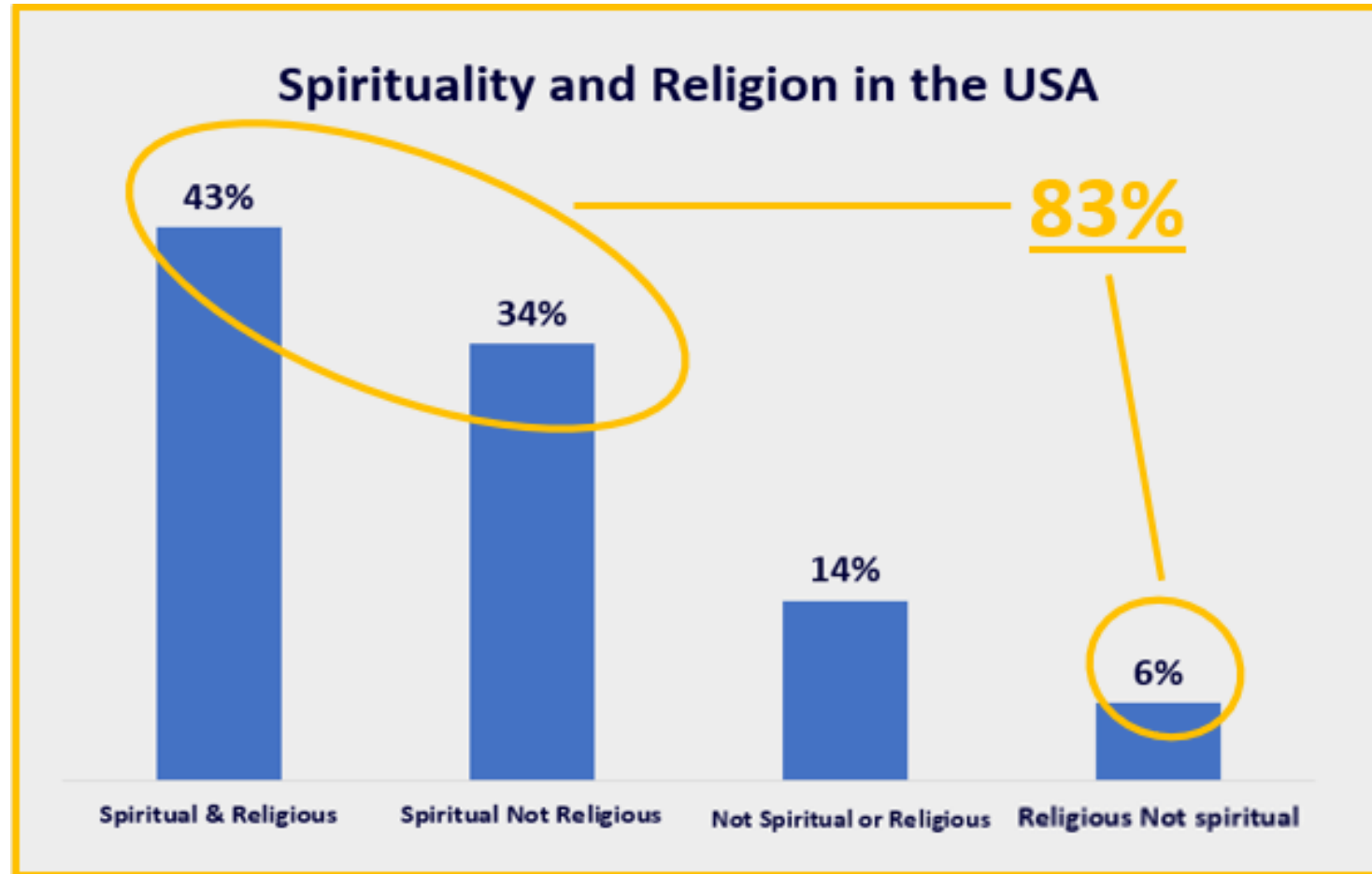




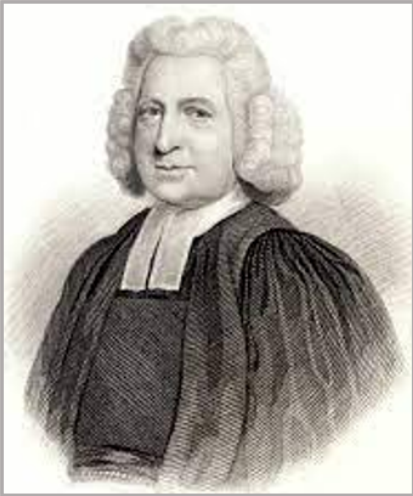


*You have made us for Yourself,
O Lord, and our heart is
restless until it rests in You.*

—St. Augustine of Hippo, 354CE - 430 CE



83% of the American population claim to have or seek spirituality or religion in their lives.



Charles Wesley
1707 - 1788

Pentecost Sunday, May 21, 1738

- Had “a strange palpitation of the heart.”
- Urge to exclaim, “I believe, I believe!”
- Immediately was at peace with God.
- Felt true joy.

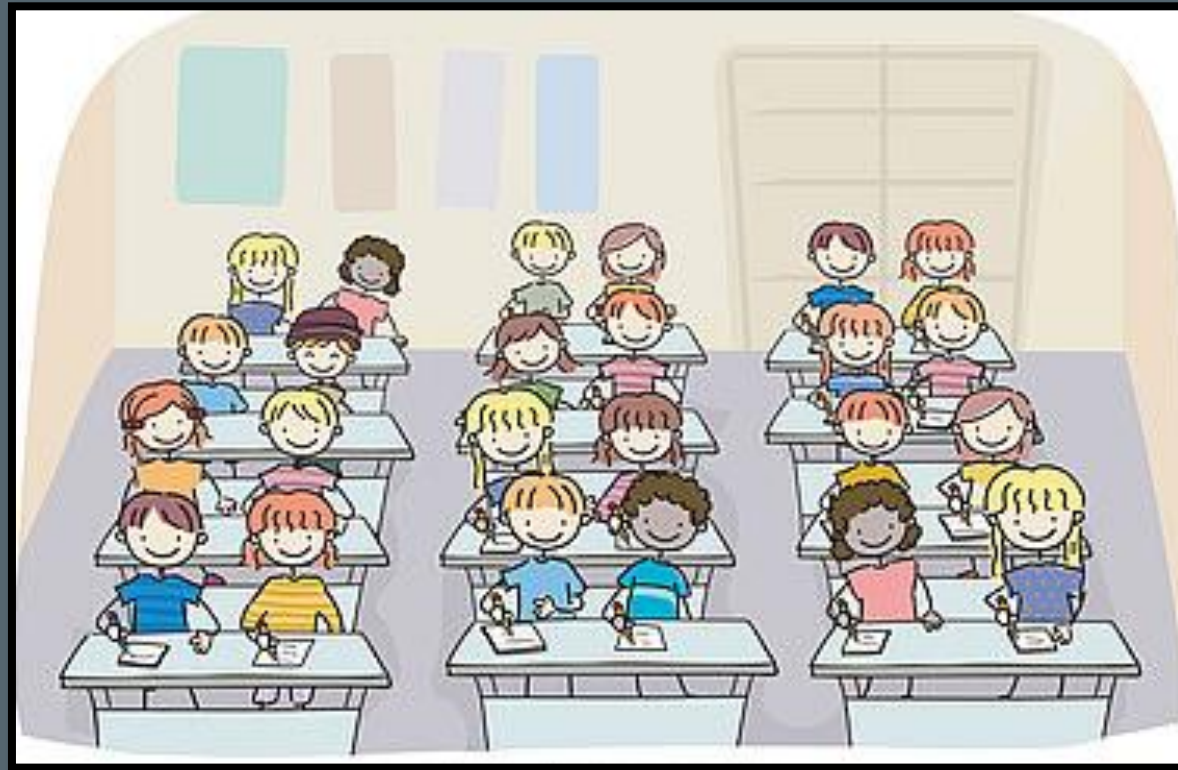


John Wesley
1703 - 1791

May 24th, 1738

- Aldersgate Street in London, England
- felt his “heart strangely warmed”
- knew that he was saved by God’s grace.

Lessons for the Young and Young at Heart





Magdasal ng walang tigil.

絶え間なく祈る

Prie sans cesse.

Pray without ceasing.

Orar sin cesar.

不住地祷告

쉬지 말고 기도하라

Berdoa tanpa henti.



Fill us with your love, O Lord, and we will sing for joy.

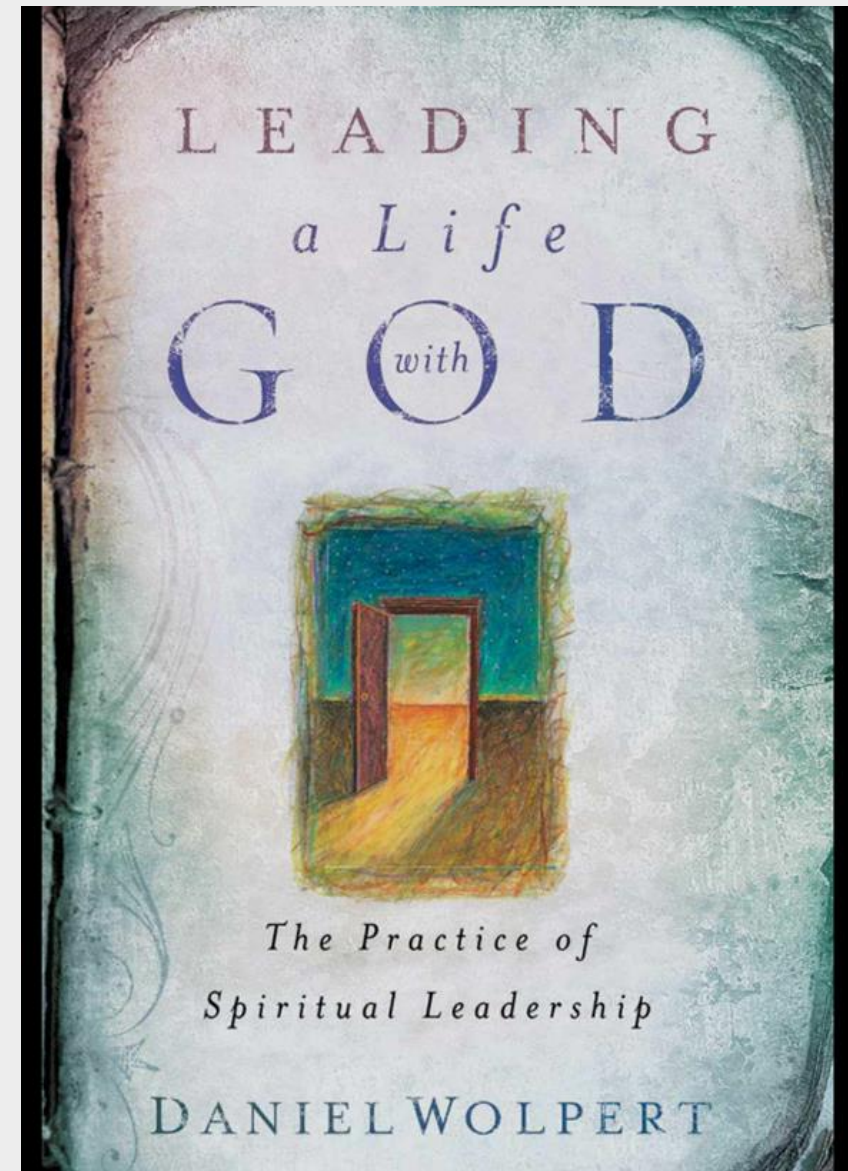
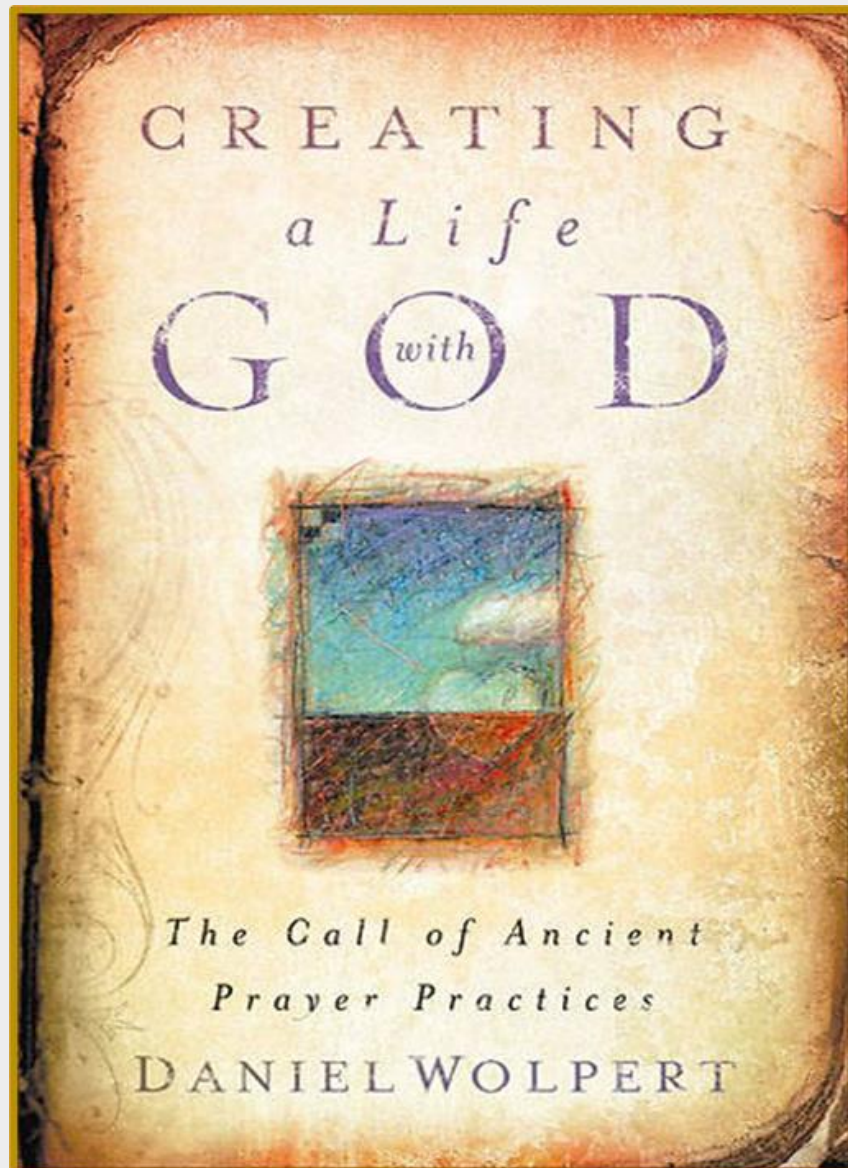
Fill us with your love, O Lord, and we will sing for joy.

Teach us to number our days aright
that we may have wisdom of heart.

Fill us at daybreak with your kindness;
we will sing for joy all our days.
Make us as glad as of old we were sad,
in the years when we saw evil.

Let your work be seen by your servants
and your glory by their children.

May the gracious care
of the Lord our God be ours.
Prosper the work of our hands.





Daniel Wolpert is a church pastor in Minnesota and taught at San Francisco Theological Seminary. He coordinates a contemplative Christian Centre for those seeking to create a life with God.

Opening Prayer

Eternal and loving God,

In the Bible you tell us to be mindful of you at all times: when we sit at home, when walking, when lying down at night and getting up in the morning.

Lord, we understand this as being in relationship with you. Help us to learn how to strengthen and sustain this relationship. Help us to know what it is, as St. Paul says, to “**pray without ceasing.**”

Lord, help us to experience the joy that comes from being in relationship with you. ***Amen.***



I'm
Done.



Responsive Reading – Psalm 63:1-8

...My God, earnestly I seek you. My soul thirsts for you, in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

I have seen you in the sanctuary and beheld your power and your glory.

Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you.

I will praise you as long as I live, and in your name,
I will lift up my hands.



My soul will be satisfied as with
the richest of foods; With singing
lips my mouth will praise you.

I will praise you as long as
I live, and in your name I will
lift up my hands.

Because you are my help, I sing in the shadow of your wings.

My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.



Deuteronomy 6:1-2a, 4-9



These are the commands,
decrees and laws the LORD your
God directed me to teach you to
observe in the land that you are
crossing the Jordan to possess,
so that you, your children and
their children after them may
fear the LORD your God.



Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts.

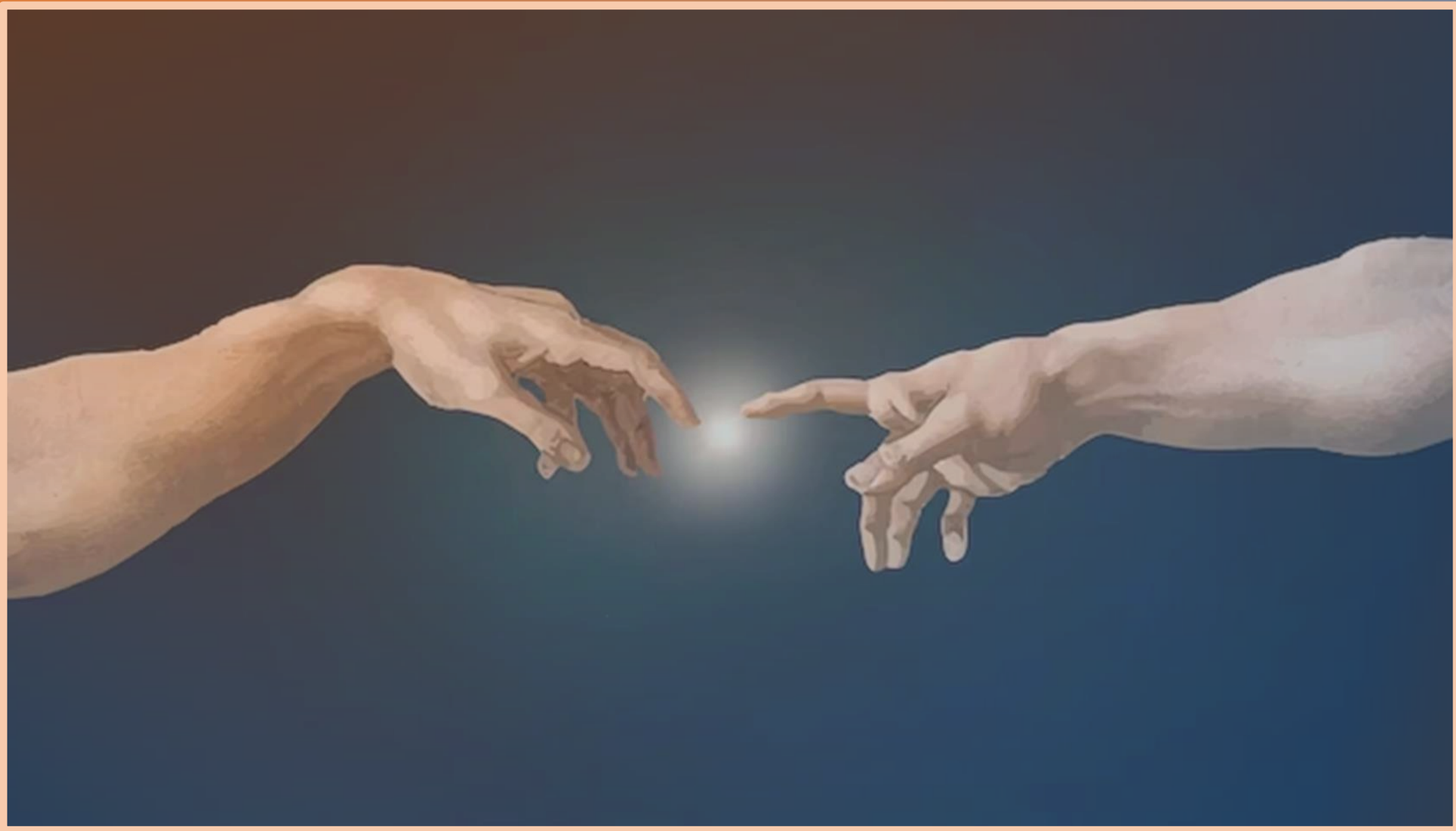


Impress them on your children.
Talk about them when you sit
at home and when you walk
along the road, when you lie
down and when you get up..



Tie them as symbols on your hands
and bind them on your foreheads.
Write them on the doorframes of
your houses and on your gates.





1 Thessalonians 5: 13b- 23



Live in peace with each other.
And we urge you, brothers, warn
those who are idle, encourage
the timid, help the weak, be
patient with everyone. Make
sure that nobody pays back
wrong for wrong.



But always try to be kind to each other and to everyone else. Be joyful always; *pray without ceasing*; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.



Do not quench the Spirit's fire; do not treat prophecies with contempt. Test everything. Hold on to the good. Avoid every kind of evil.



Pray Without Ceasing







CREATING
a Life
G O D
with



*The Call of Ancient
Prayer Practices*
DANIEL WOLPERT

*Be still and know
that I am God.*



SPIRITUAL PRACTICES FOR CREATING A LIFE WITH GOD

1. **SOLITUDE AND SILENCE** - The first step of the journey
2. **LECTIO DIVINA** - Encountering God through sacred reading of scripture
3. **THE JESUS PRAYER** - Discovering the power in God's name
4. **JOURNALING** - Writing down what God is showing us
5. **PRAYER OF SELF-EXAMINATION** - Encountering God in day-to-day life
6. **CREATIVITY AND THE DIVINE** - Outward expressions of God
7. **PRAYING IN NATURE** - Contemplation of God and Creation

You Are My All in All- W&S 3040

You are my strength when I am weak.

You are the treasure that I seek.

You are my all in all.

Seeking you as a precious jewel,

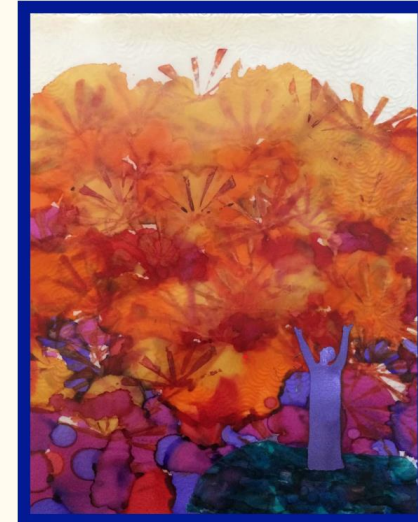
Lord, to give up I'd be a fool.

Seeking you as a precious jewel,

You are my all in all.

Lord, to give up I'd be a fool.

You are my all in all.



Art by Sue Carroll

Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name.

Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name.

Taking my sin, my cross, my shame,
Rising again I bless your name,
You are my all in all.

When I fall down you pick me up.
When I am dry you fill my cup.
You are my all in all.



Art by Sue Carroll

**Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name.
Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name.**

Community Prayer

Our Loving God,

We want to draw closer to You, to have the kind of relationship that enriches and strengthens our lives. You are an awesome God, constantly showing us Your love and grace. All around us are ways in which we can learn more about who You are, if we take the time to notice them. Your Word is full of instructions and examples for how to live successful lives.

When we look back over our life journey, we see countless blessings along the way—so much in the way of healing, gifts of family and friends, and even challenging experiences that make us better and stronger people. Help us to keep our focus always on You. *Amen*



Offering and Doxology

UM Hymnal 95



We give thanks for this wonderful,
generous community of faith.



Doxology - UM Hymnal 94

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

My Life Flows On - TFWS 2212

My life flows on in endless song,
above earth's lamentation.
I hear the clear, though far-off hymn
that hails a new creation.

Through all the tumult and the strife,
I hear that music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul.
How can I keep from singing?



Photo by James Gardner

**No storm can shake my inmost calm
While to that Rock I'm clinging.**

**Since love is Lord of heaven and earth,
How can I keep from singing?**



Benediction

Art by Sue Carroll