

Resources for Ministers for *Cultivating God Mind Through Parables*

While writing this Small Group Ministry booklet, Rev. Carolyn Thomas suggested that ministers might appreciate ideas for Sunday morning talks that connect with these seven lessons. The suggestions below are those compiled during her research.

Lesson 1: Exploring

- ❑ Books: *Learn to Live: The Meaning of the Parables*, Ervin Seale, DeVorss & Company, Los Angeles, 1992.
- ❑ *Jesus' Parables: Finding Our God Within*, Robert Winterhalter with George W. Fisk, Paulist Press.
- ❑ Parable, *Wikipedia*, the free encyclopedia:
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parables>
- ❑ Song: "The Beautiful Garden of Prayer," *Wings of Song*, #93.
- ❑ Story: "Dig a Little Deeper," author unknown,
<http://www.inspirationalstories.com/8/881.html>
- ❑ 2 readings from *Spiritual Literacy: Reading the Sacred in Everyday Life*, Frederic and Mary Ann Brussat, Scribner, New York, 1996. Short paragraph by Joseph Goldstein, p. 277, and short reading by Marilyn Barrett, p. 527.

Lesson 2: Being Receptive

- ❑ 2006 Unity Lenten booklet lesson
- ❑ Article: "The Fires of Spring," from Unity booklet: "Celebrate the Power of Life," 1991, pp. 26-31.
- ❑ Article: "The Seed and the Harvest," from Unity booklet: "Forever A Blessing, 2004," pp. 23-30.
- ❑ *Chicken Soup for the Gardener's Soul*, Veteran's story
- ❑ Story: "Sow the Seed—See the Harvest" by Steve Brunkhorst,
<http://achievezine.com/stories/seed-harvest.shtml>

Lesson 3: Observing Thought Patterns

- ❑ Definition of tares. Internet resource

- Article: "A Time for Sowing, A Time for Reaping," Unity Booklet: "Take the Wings of the Morning," 1984, pp. 19-28.
- 2006 Unity Lenten booklet

Lesson 4: Investing Your Talents

- *Now, Discover Your Strengths*, Marcus Buckingham & Donald O. Clifton, Ph.D., The Free Press, New York, 2001.
- *Creative Living*, Carolyn Thomas, Small Group Ministry booklet, Association of Unity Churches International.
- *The Artist's Way*, Julia Cameron, Jeremy P Tarcher, New York, 1992.
- Story: "The Monkey with the Wooden Apples" by Steve Gillman
<http://achieveezine.com/stories/Wooden-Apples.shtml>

Lesson 5: Transforming Your Thoughts and Actions

- *Spiritual Literacy: Reading the Sacred in Everyday Life*, Frederic and Mary Ann Brussat, Scribner, New York, 1996. Short paragraph by M.C. Richards on p. 276.

Lesson 6: Activating Your Intentions

- "Baking Bread as Therapy" story and recipe from
<http://library.adoption.com/traditions/baking-bread-as-therapy/article/1606/1.html>

Lesson 7: Accepting Your Good

- *Spiritual Literacy: Reading the Sacred in Everyday Life*, Frederic and Mary Ann Brussat, Scribner, New York, 1996. Short paragraph by Maya Angelou on p. 466.
- Song: "I Am the Radiant Life of God," *Wings of Song*, #183.