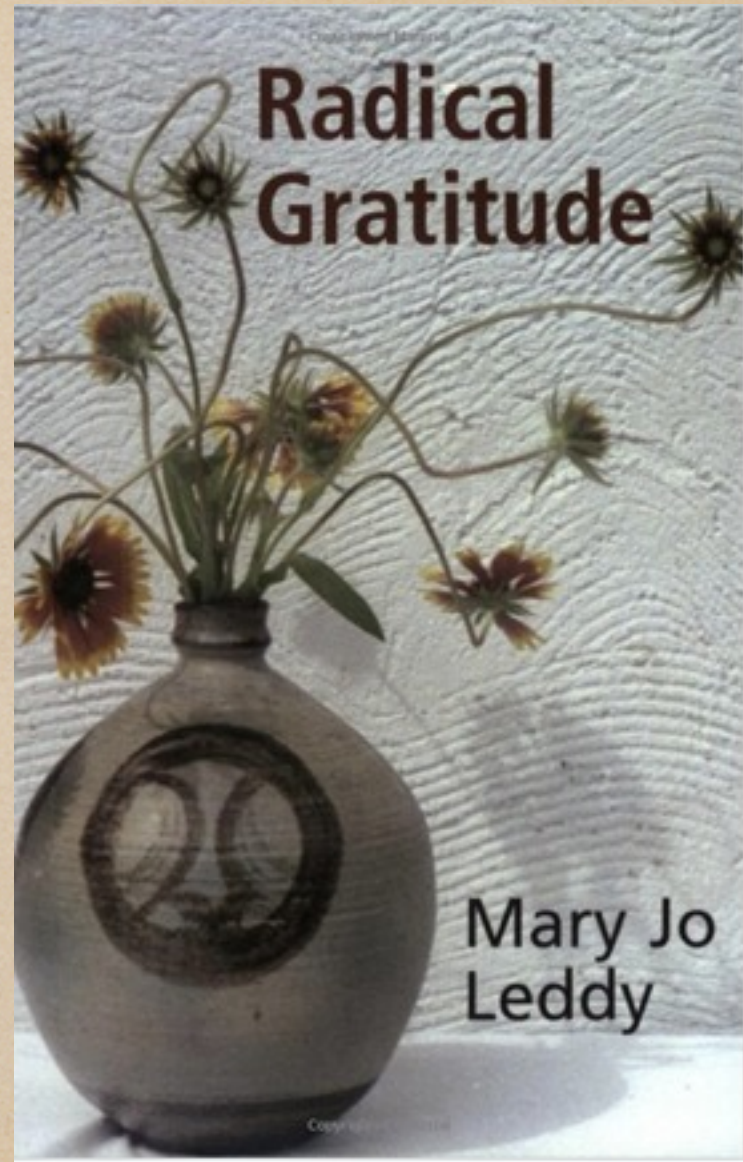


# Radical Gratitude

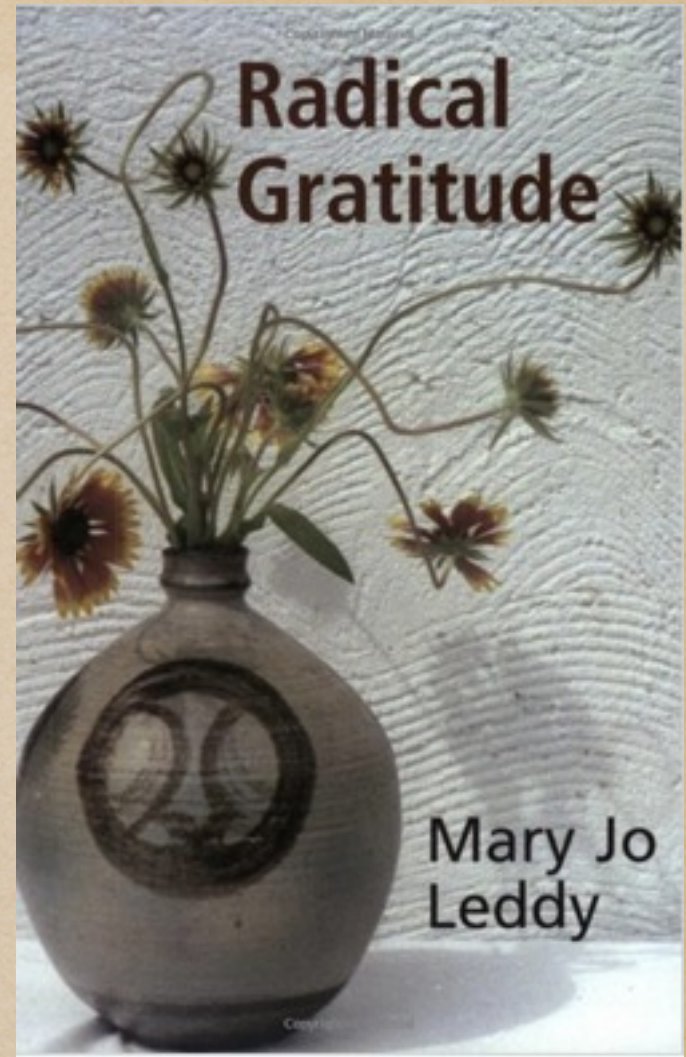
by Mary Jo Leddy

Holy Manners 30  
Bookstudy - Winter 2013  
ACTS Committee  
St. David's United Church,  
Calgary, Canada  
[rg.stdavidscalgary.net](http://rg.stdavidscalgary.net)



# Session 1

## Opening Evening & Chapter 1 Beginnings



Additional resources are on site. <http://rg.stdavidscalgary.net>

## Aims of Study

- To introduce the ideas of Mary Jo Leddy in “Radical Gratitude”, who is coming to St. David’s as the theme speaker on Grace for the Annual Stewardship Dinner.
- To review our earlier study on her “The Other Face of God” in preparation for her coming to the St. David’s Workshop on Immigration next Mar 1-3

# Ch 1. Beginnings

- “Each one of us has at least one significant word to say with our lives. ... It is not easy to identify the word.”
- “In spite of ourselves and sometimes because of us, there is a beckoning and a hearkening”
- “... we are found and lost and found again ...”
- “... I am summoned to gratitude ...”
- “... [realizing] that I am already grateful and that I am not yet grateful.”
- “What is the meaning of life? Wherein lies my happiness?”

# Ch 1. Beginnings

- “... Ingratitude is ingrained in our economic system ... for more than 200 years.”
- This is not a book about spirituality, but an invitation to ponder gratitude.
- “This book is about ordinary grace ... about authentic liberation in a culture ... [that is] chronically dissatisfied ...”
- “Authentic spirituality, genuine politics, and good economics arise from a spirit of radical gratitude.”

# Ch 1. Beginnings

- “Culture is like the air we breathe and like fish in the water, we remain largely unconscious of the context in which we live and move and have our being.”
- “I have come to see our many faiths as so many great rivers, which are all flowing toward the same vast ocean of the mystery of God.”
- We are from God, with God and meant to be for God.

## Video

- TED - Gratitude for Creation
- by Louie Schwartzberg
- 10 minutes
- a delightful presentation of time lapse photography of flowers and nature
- and an introspection on being grateful

[http://www.ted.com/talks/louie\\_schwartzberg\\_nature\\_beauty\\_gratitude.html](http://www.ted.com/talks/louie_schwartzberg_nature_beauty_gratitude.html)

# Break

Discussion Questions:

1. In what ways have we like Mary Jo experienced new beginnings?
2. She invites us to explore gratitude. What sorts of gratefulness might we better notice in our lives?

Next Week:

Ch 2. Perpetual Dissatisfaction.

