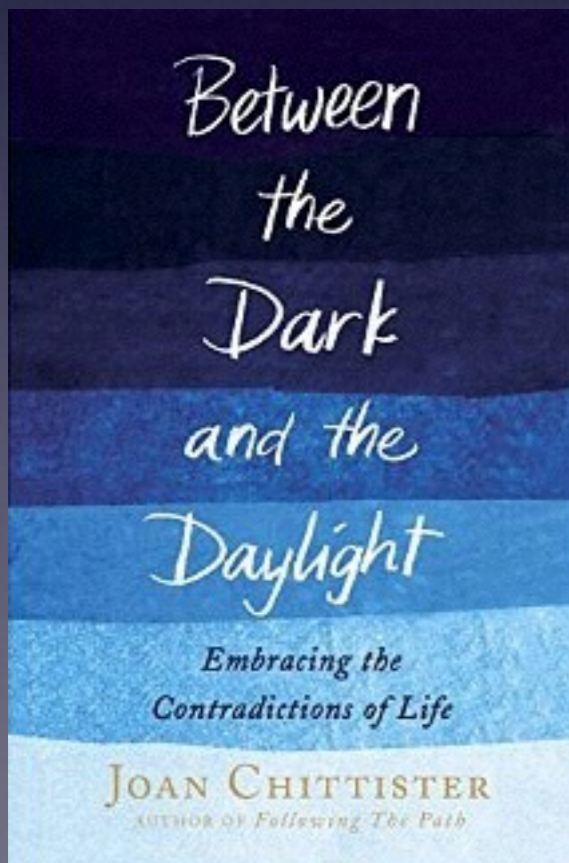


Spiritual Darkness Two Studies

ACTS
Fall 2014



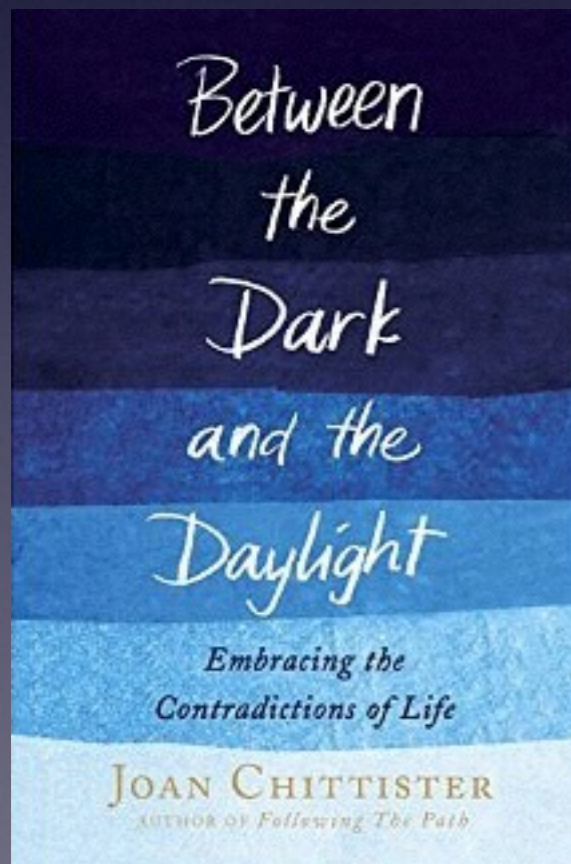
St David's United Church
Calgary

Opening

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Between the Dark and the Daylight

Session 8



- Opening
- Introductions
- Chapter Summaries
- Media
- Discussions
- Closing

Between the Dark and the Daylight

Session 8 - Readings

Selected Chapters

13. THE TEMPTATION OF SINLESSNESS
14. THE STRUGGLE BETWEEN GUILT AND GROWTH
15. THE CREATIVITY OF CONFUSION
16. THE SANITY OF IRRATIONALITY
17. THE LOSS OF THE MASCULINE EMASCULATES THE FEMININE
18. THE NEED FOR THE FEMININE IN MASCULINITY

Ch 14 The Struggle Between Built and Growth

1.

Everyone is ashamed of something.
Chittister tells her story. What is your's?

Ch 14 The Struggle Between Built and Growth

2.

“It is shame - a living inner shame, the awareness that we have not lived up to our own moral capacity - that challenges us to scale the very heights of human integrity.”

Ch 17 The Loss of the Masculine Emasculates the Feminine

1.

“Women (have) claimed the active, thinking properties of humanity that men have long claimed as sole owners and called masculinity.”

Ch 17 The Loss of the Masculine Emasculates the Feminine

2.

“Yet tragically, still in our era, women are two-thirds of the hungry of the world, two-thirds of the illiterate, and are still the poorest of the world. On what grounds shall we continue to ignore, suppress, and deny the gifts of women?”

Ch 18 The Need for the Feminine in Masculinity

1. “The movement away from reductionist notions of tribe and clan and nationality to concentration on ideas of what it means to be a person, an individual, unique rather than one among many, has been a long, hard, slow one in human history.”

Ch 18 The Need for the Feminine in Masculinity

2 Who am I really?
How am I meant to behave?

Ch 18 The Need for the Feminine in Masculinity

3.

“The question of what it means
to be an individual
has yet to be defined individually.”

Unfamiliar Names from
“Top Ten Greatest Women in History”
James Frater’s list p94

Emmeline Pankhurst

English suffragette who led
the movement to obtain the vote for women
in the UK in the early twentieth century

Boudica

British warrior-queen who led rebellion
against the Romans (1st century CE)

Catherine of Siena

an Italian mystic who wrote
devotional books, letters, and poems.

Unfamiliar Names from
“Top Ten Greatest Women in History”
James Frater’s list p94

Tomiris

ancient Eastern Iranian empress who
reigned over a Scythian pastoral-nomadic
confederation of Central Asia
east of the Caspian Sea,
in parts of modern-day
Turkmenistan, Afghanistan,
western Uzbekistan,
and southern Kazakhstan.

Unfamiliar Names from
“Top Ten Greatest Women in History”
James Frater’s list p94

Hatshepsut

queen of Egypt, 1540 -1481 BCE?
who served as a regent for her
nephew since she was first in line
as a monarch in the royal family.

Catherine the Great (1729-96)

German-born empress of Russia from 1762.

Instrumental in inviting many Germans
to settle in the Steppes and elsewhere.

Video

-

Seminar

“On Women and Progress in Religion”
at The Parliament of the World’s Religions

Sister Joan Chittister

15m excerpt

on changing our mode of thinking
about women in religion

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L42IF2iWSgw>



Video

4m

Robert Bly
on Grief and On Being A Man
Twin Cities Television 1989

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tcwpu3qCZy4>



Discussion Questions

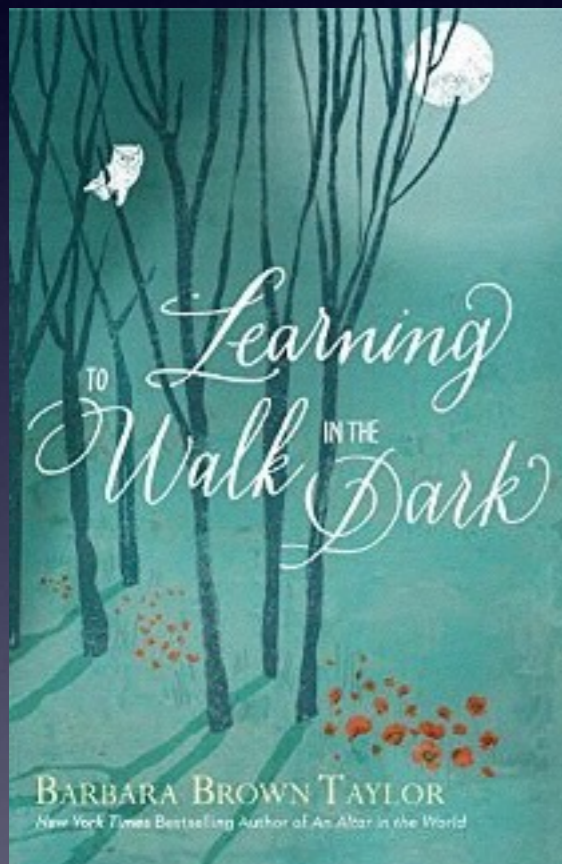
14. What is the difference between guilt and shame
Is guilt good?
How is shame potentially positive?
17. Discuss: Women and men are equal
What does this really mean?
18. Discuss: The great question of life is not
what it is to be masculine or what it is to
be feminine but what it is to be human.

Break

Closing

Learning to Walk in the Dark

Next Readings



19. THE LIBERATION IN LOSS

20. LONELINESS: AN INVITATION TO DISCOVER
NEW RESOURCES

21. THE SEEDS OF LOVE IN FRIENDLESSNESS

22. THE LONELINESS OF LOVE

23. THE FULLNESS OF SEPARATENESS

24. THE CALL TO SOLITUDE IN CROWDS

25. THE EMPTINESS OF CROWDS

Study Website

<http://dark.stdavidscalgary.net>