

A Brueggemann Feast

A Dialogue Education Framework

This course invites you to select one of Walter Brueggemann's books to read and share with your friends. A list of selected Brueggemann's published texts is attached.

The course framework uses Dialogue Education and offers a structure that assures learning.

YOUR PART:

1. Register for the "course" by writing janekvella@gmail.com Receive the selected list of Brueggemann books, the LNRA (Learning Needs and Resources Assessment) and the course design.

2. **Select** and **buy** your book, "read, digest and mark" it before you come to the course. **Read** it from beginning to end.

3 **Write** a short (one page) letter to a friend telling what you found in the book: ideas, emotions you felt, actions the book led you to take. Bring a copy of that letter to the course.

4. **Respond** to the LNRA - (Learning Task # 1) sent to you.

5. **Attend** all ten sessions of the course.

Design:

WHO: (PARTICIPANTS)

A group of ten – twelve men and women

WHY: (THE SITUATION)

We want to deepen our faith by prayerful study of the Old Testament and we need WB's help

SO THAT: (INDICATORS OF LEARNING)

We can act out of that faith in our daily, work-a-day lives, noting new behaviors congruent with what we are learning of God's love, God's consistent message and the sure hope these evoke.

WHEN: (TIME FRAME)

Two hours a week for ten weeks

WHERE: (SITE)

A quiet well-lit room at the church or in someone's home.

WHAT: (CONTENT)

1. **Summaries** of the selected books read by participants
2. **Congruent** themes of WB from all books read
3. The **message** evoked from our reading
4. **Indicators** of transfer of learning in our behavior
5. **A decision:** What's next?

WHAT FOR: ACHIEVEMENT-BASED OBJECTIVES

By the end of the ten-week course, all will have

- **Read** one self-selected Brueggemann text
- **Written** a one page summary as a letter to a friend
- **Read** all ten-twelve summaries
- **Identified** themes discovered in the selected texts
- **Named** the message(s) this group gets from the reading
- **Described** behavioral indicators of learning and transfer
- **Made** a decision: What's next?

HOW: LEARNING TASKS & MATERIALS

The Program

LEARNING TASK # 1 LEARNING NEEDS AND RESOURCES ASSESSMENT

Prior to the first session, after you have registered for this course, respond to these questions. Keep a copy of your response to bring to the course sessions.

LNRA: A BRUEGGEMANN FEAST

Please send this via e mail to _____ by _____. Thank you.

1. **Describe** your experience with the Old Testament.
2. Having read the design of this course before you registered, **name** two things you hope will happen for you as you do the course.
3. **Write** a short opening prayer for one of the sessions. Your anonymous prayer will be used at random.
4. Tell which Brueggemann text you selected.
5. Attach to this e-mail your one page summary that text as a letter to a friend.

Before the first session, all summaries, and all prayers will be sent to participants.

SESSION ONE

LEARNING TASK # 2 OUR OPENING PRAYER

[a copy of each prayer in a bowl]

All of the prayers offered through the LNRA are in a bowl, one is selected, and someone offers to lead us by reading it. A time of silence is offered.

Tell what you want to say to the author of that prayer.

LEARNING TASK # 3 OUR SELECTED BOOKS

[A collage of titles of selected books]

A We've all read the short summaries of the selected books.

In pairs, describe what you found most useful in the book *you* selected. We'll hear all.

B Look at the collage of titles we've selected to "read, digest and mark". What do you notice?

C Which other book seems to pair with yours? Form that pair, decide what you found together in your texts that is useful in your faith journey. We'll hear all.

LEARNING TASK # 4 ONE SELECTED TEXT

4 A TITLE: *Spirituality of the Psalms (2002)* Person _____

1. Share with us some of your "markings".
2. What themes emerged?
3. What questions arose?
4. What new behaviors have arisen for you from this reading?

4 B In groups of three, reflect upon the book *you* are reading in relation to what we just heard from _____.

Name parallels and similarities of markings, themes, questions and behaviors.

We'll hear all

LEARNING TASK #5 THEMES ARISING

5 A Identify in your small group, one or two *themes* you have heard named here this evening again and again. Tell where those themes appeared in *your* text. We'll hear all

5 B What's Next: The same pattern will be used next week.
Suggestions for changes? Appreciations?

The Prayer of the Session is said again to end Session One

SESSION TWO

LEARNING TASK # 6 OUR OPENING PRAYER...

[a copy of each prayer in a bowl]

6 A All of the prayers offered through the LNRA are in a bowl, one is selected, and someone offers to lead us by reading it. A time of silence is offered.

6 B Tell what you want to say to the author of that prayer.

LEARNING TASK # 7 LEARNING TASK # 4 ONE SELECTED TEXT

7 A TITLE) *Person*_____

1. Share with us some of your “markings”.
2. What themes emerged?
3. What questions arose?
4. What new behaviors have arisen from this reading?

7 B In groups of three, reflect upon the book *you* are reading in relation to what we just heard from ____.

Name parallels and similarities of markings, themes, questions and behaviors. We’ll hear all

LEARNING TASK #8 THEMES ARISING

8 A Identify in your small group, one or two *themes* you have heard named here this evening again and again. Tell where those themes appeared in *your* text. We’ll hear all

8 B What’s Next: The same pattern will be used next week. What are your suggestions for changes? Appreciations?

The Prayer of the Session is said again to end Session Two

The rest of the sessions follow that pattern – prayer/ a selected text from one person / Response from others in terms of themes etc.

Selected Brueggemann Books for A Brueggemann Feast II

Hopeful Imagination, Fortress Press, 1986

Hope Within History, John Knox Press, 1987

Power, Providence & Personality; Biblical Insight into Life and Ministry
Westminster/John Knox, 1990

Interpretation and Obedience: From Faithful Reading to Faithful Living Fortress Press,
1991

Praying the Psalms St Mary's College Press, 1982

The Psalms and the Life of Faith, Fortress Press, 1995

The Threat of Life: Sermons on Pain, Power, and Weakness Fortress Press, 1996

The Prophetic Imagination, Fortress Press 2001

Spirituality of Psalms, Fortress Press 2001

Great Prayers of the Old Testament Westminster/John Knox Press, 2010

Journey to the Common Good Westminster/John Knox Press, 2010

Truth Speaks to Power Westminster/John Knox Press, 2013

Reality, Grief, Hope Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company 2014

Sabbath as Resistance Westminster/John Knox Press, 201