

READING REPORT FORM

PMN 101 – Introduction to Spiritual Formation

Student Name: John Moran

With integrity, I have read this book (circle one): Thoroughly and Entirely—100%

Quickly but Completely—100%

Thoroughly but NOT Entirely—100%

Quickly and NOT Completely—100%

Not at all

Signed John Moran

1). Where did this book “take you apart?” How did God use it in “spiritual surgery?” (please use quotes & page numbers)?

- This book forced me to reflect on my relationship with the Lord. How I pray, meditate or lack thereof, and persevere. Pg 173 speaks of the Journey we take with Jesus, the struggle most Christians like me have, how to stop myself from listening to my thoughts and desires for my life but rather listen to the Holy Spirit and tuning into Jesus’s voice to lead and guide me. I often think about how I want to avoid having God revolve around my life and rather have life revolve around God. This book exposed my poor habits, such as trying to fit God into my daily life instead of my life being centered around God. Alling God the space to be woven into my fabric so that I cannot help but experience His presence all day. This book reshaped my thinking and how to form my relationship with God in a more intentional manner

2). Where did you agree most with the author? Disagree most?

- I agree with almost everything that I read. I related to chapter 8 and how the author describes the realistic obstacles many faces in our quest to draw nearer to God. I draw an analogy sometimes; it's like the old car radios, where you go up and down the dial to try and find a clear signal. Sometimes your favorite stations are filled with static, but the closer you get to the antenna, the more apparent the signal becomes. Just like God, the more we learn to be intentional., and allow Him the space to work, the clearer his voice will become in our lives. Life's distractions fill us with many obstacles, many of which we can't avoid. The author speaks of one block to character formations being the temptation to do our own thing. Pg. 173. This is a problematic life-long struggle for me, and I'm sure many people. Learning the spiritual discipline to listen, wait, and be guided by God, not our thoughts.

3). What was the critical spiritual truth you gleaned from this book? How are you integrating it into your spiritual formation process?

- This book provided the guide path on how to develop spiritual intimacy with God. When I read and pray in the morning before work, I stop and reflect before and after; I've incorporated listening to the Holy Spirit after reading short passages into my readings. Instead of reading to get through the chapter, I meditate and reflect on the words. I think about how to develop a deeper intimacy with God; what thoughts or obstacles prevent me from creating that? I've learned from Pg. 44 that I am more of a practitioner and open to trying and learning new ways to read and learn about God. Lastly, I felt like this book

helped to provide a blueprint on how to allow more space for God to work in our lives and for me to more intimately experience God in my life by allowing a spiritual formation to take root. I do realize this is a lifelong process. This book helped reshape the foundational principles of developing a deeper intimate relationship with God. This will serve me well in deepening my relationship with the Lord.