

READING REPORT FORM

PMN 101 – Introduction to Spiritual Formation

Student Name: Laura Calvin

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

Quickly but Completely—100%

Thoroughly but NOT Entirely—_____ %

Quickly and NOT Completely—_____ %

Not at all

Signed: _____ Laura Calvin _____

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

This book has helped me to rethink many things. First my relationship with God. I have always been a person who considers myself a Christian but at the same time I have never cared about my relationship with God as such. I have always known he was there but my knowledge of what he wants for me is something I have never rethought. So this book has helped me to know what path he wants for me and the reasons why sometimes pursuing a relationship with God can be so necessary and something that most people, like me before, were unaware of.

There are two concepts in the book that have helped me reflect the most. The first is "If it stops you from getting closer to God then it needs to go.". For me this is a phrase that has made me reflect a lot. As a conclusion, I thought that there are many factors that can distract us from God, be it situations, people, and actions that we choose and do that distance us from him. That is why I have thought of relating with people who have God present, which will surely help me to continue to be at his side.

Secondly, the other quote that stuck with me was "Your first small step must be followed by another, and another, until you realize that God has indeed made a way for you to know him personally". This has been another very important thing that I have been able to reflect on. Before I was not fully aware of the things I wanted in life or what I had already experienced. I didn't understand the reason for certain situations, good and bad, and at the end reading this sentence I realized that it is because God is the one who has a chosen path for each person. Everything that happens in every situation is for a reason and everything has a purpose that we do not know at the time, but then with time we understand.

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

I've agreed with most of the book, so I'll just say what I agree with most.

The first thing is that when we go through a difficult situation, we do not have to go through it alone, but we have to think that God accompanies us at all times, and we must listen to what he tells us to solve it and give us strength to get through it.

The second thing I agree with is that we must listen to what God wants for us because he always has a plan in our way, and not listening to him could make us move away from him, and the plans he has for us.

Lastly, I have agreed with the point of view about a person's identity towards God. Each person is different and must discover himself and his relationship with God.

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

What I have extracted from the book and what I intend to apply now and in the future is to follow the path that God wants for me. As I mentioned before, God has a path for each one of us, and that is something I did not see so clearly. I have to learn to listen to Him and take the decisions or paths that I want after having listened to God. On the other hand, I will try to apply it now in the present and in the future thinking what is the right thing to do in each situation, and if I go through a difficult situation it will be because God wants me to learn something new that will help me to be stronger. Also, if I ever doubt, I will turn to him.