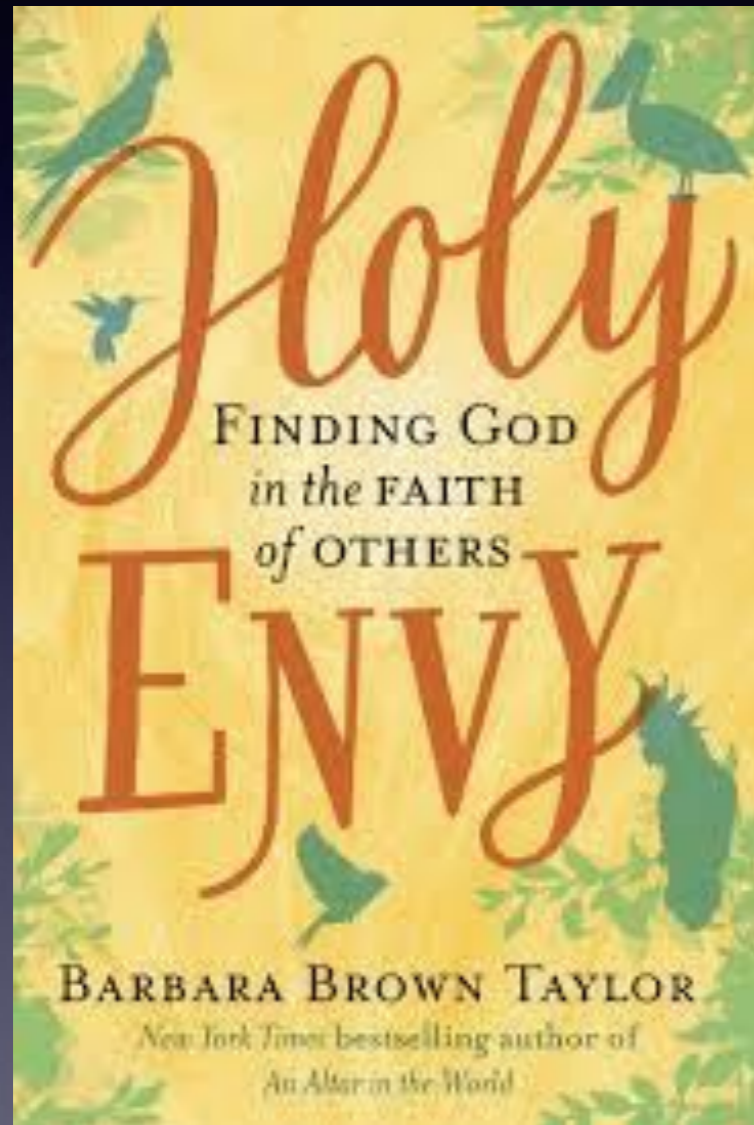


# Holy Envy



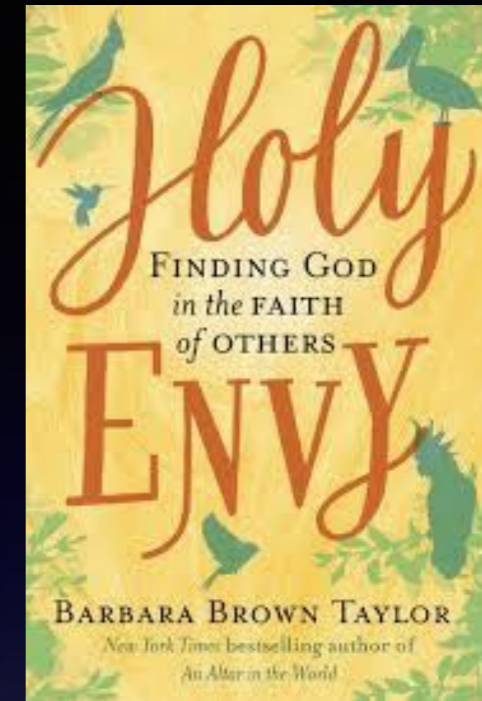
Holy Manners Bookstudy 43

ACTS  
Fall 2019

St David's United Church  
Calgary

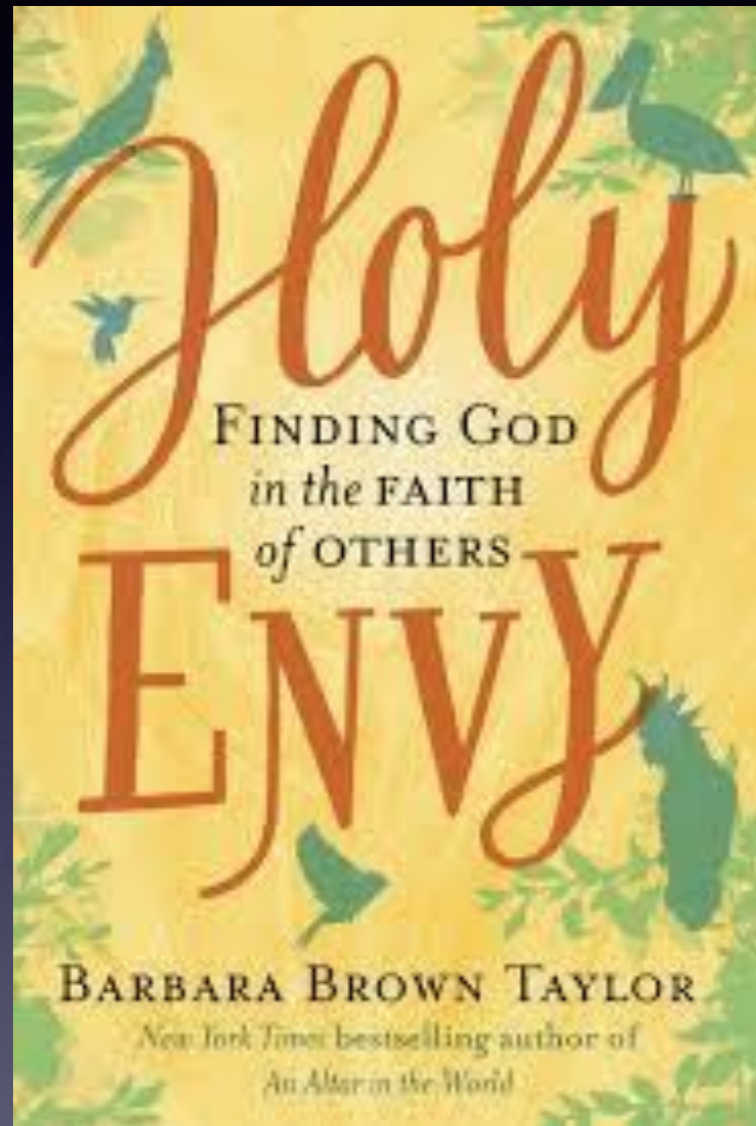
# Holy Envy - Session 10

- **Welcomes & Intros**
- **Housekeeping**
- **Reflection handout sheet for final visit last Wednesday to the Avatamsaka Monastery, led by Brenda**
- **A card of thanks, including our comments, will be sent to the monastery this week.**





# Opening Prayer



Opening  
Reflection  
Course  
Impressions

Ken Kittridge



# **Presentation - Wayne**

## **Session 10 - 25 Nov 2019**

**Ch 12: The Final Exam**

**Epilogue:**

**Church of the Common Ground**



## Focus on Chapter 12

# The Final Exam

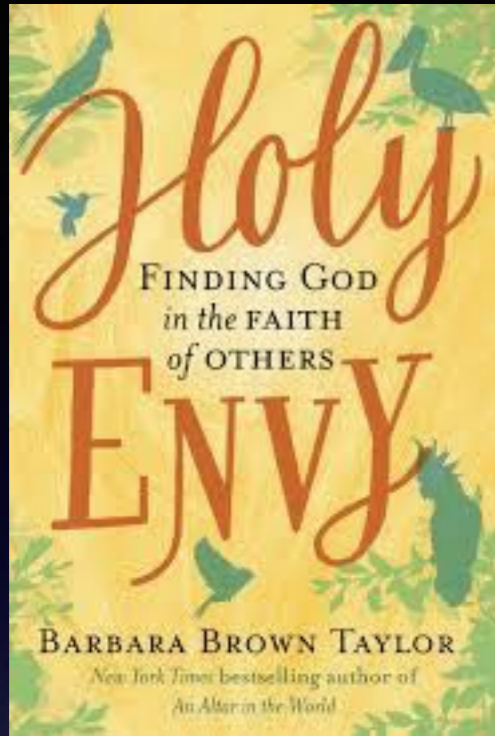
Holy Envy and the classroom compared to Holy Envy in real life

Grades seldom reflect what I have seen taking place in my students (p. 205).

In a religion course like this, it is not 'right answers' but 'meaningful relationships' that are remembered.

Not the discovery facts of other faiths, but the experience of being on a spiritual quest with them.

- discuss



## Focus on Chapter 12 **The Final Exam**

### **Small Group Discussion (10 minutes)**

"What has inspired holy envy in me this term?"

"What new discoveries have I made about my own faith?"

Reflect in small groups,  
then share key insights  
with large group.



## Focus on Chapter 12 **The Final Exam**

As in many class prep situations, teaching a course provides much enrichment for Taylor the teacher.





## Focus on Chapter 12 **The Final Exam**

### **Some discoveries:**

- "When religion comes between me and my neighbour, I will choose my neighbour" {p. 208)
- "Will a study of other faiths compromise my own? - perhaps so. (p. 209)
- "Engaging the faith of others will certainly cause me to lose faith in the old box I have kept God in" (p. 210).
- "I have become too large for my old box" (p. 210)



## Focus on Chapter 12 **The Final Exam**

### **"Certainty" vs. "Meaningful Relationships"**

- "I asked God for certainty in my beliefs, but God gave me relationships instead" (p. 212)
- You will leave your quest for certainty, and join a quest for truth with a diverse group of 'others'
- - discuss

# BREAK



**Buddhist OM Meditation**

3 hours

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



Time now. Please return.



Focus on Chapter 12  
"The Last Judgement"  
Matthew 25: 33-45

**Interpreting a significant text with Taylor**

The Sheep and the Goats

# Matthew 25: 33-45

## The Final Judgment

Phillips Translation

**33 He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left.**

**34-36 “Then the king will say to those on his right ‘Come, you who have won my Father’s blessing! Take your inheritance—the kingdom reserved for you since the foundation of the world! For I was hungry and you gave me food. I was thirsty and you gave me a drink. I was lonely and you made me welcome. I was naked and you clothed me. I was ill and you came and looked after me. I was in prison and you came to see me there.’”**

**37-39 “Then the true men will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and give you food? When did we see you thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you lonely and make you welcome, or see you naked and clothe you, or see you ill or in prison and go to see you?’**

**40 “And the king will reply, ‘I assure you that whatever you did for the humblest of my brothers you did for me.’**

**41-43 “Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Out of my presence, cursed as you are, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels! For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink. I was lonely and you never made me welcome. When I was naked you did nothing to clothe me; when I was sick and in prison you never cared about me.’**

**44 “Then they too will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we ever see you hungry, or thirsty, or lonely, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and fail to look after you?’**

**45 “Then the king will answer them with these words, ‘I assure you that whatever you failed**



# Focus on Chapter 12 "The Last Judgement" Matthew 25: 33-45

## **Interpreting a significant text with Taylor**

Wayne reads text next slide.

- The Sheep and the Goats (revisited) - Reward and Punishment (reinterpreted)
- Traditionally, we have viewed this passage as an end of time' final judgement scene, involving -
  - We Christians versus Others
  - Good People versus Evil Ones
  - Going to Heaven versus Going to Hell



# Focus on Chapter 12

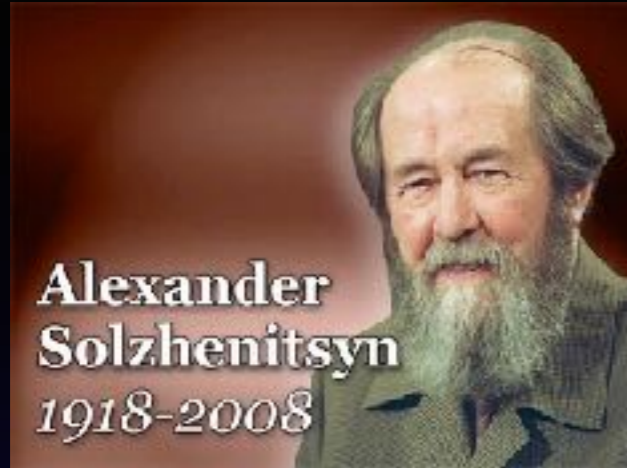
## Matthew 25: 33-45

### "The Last Judgement"

#### **Taylor writes in light of our recent interfaith experiences -**

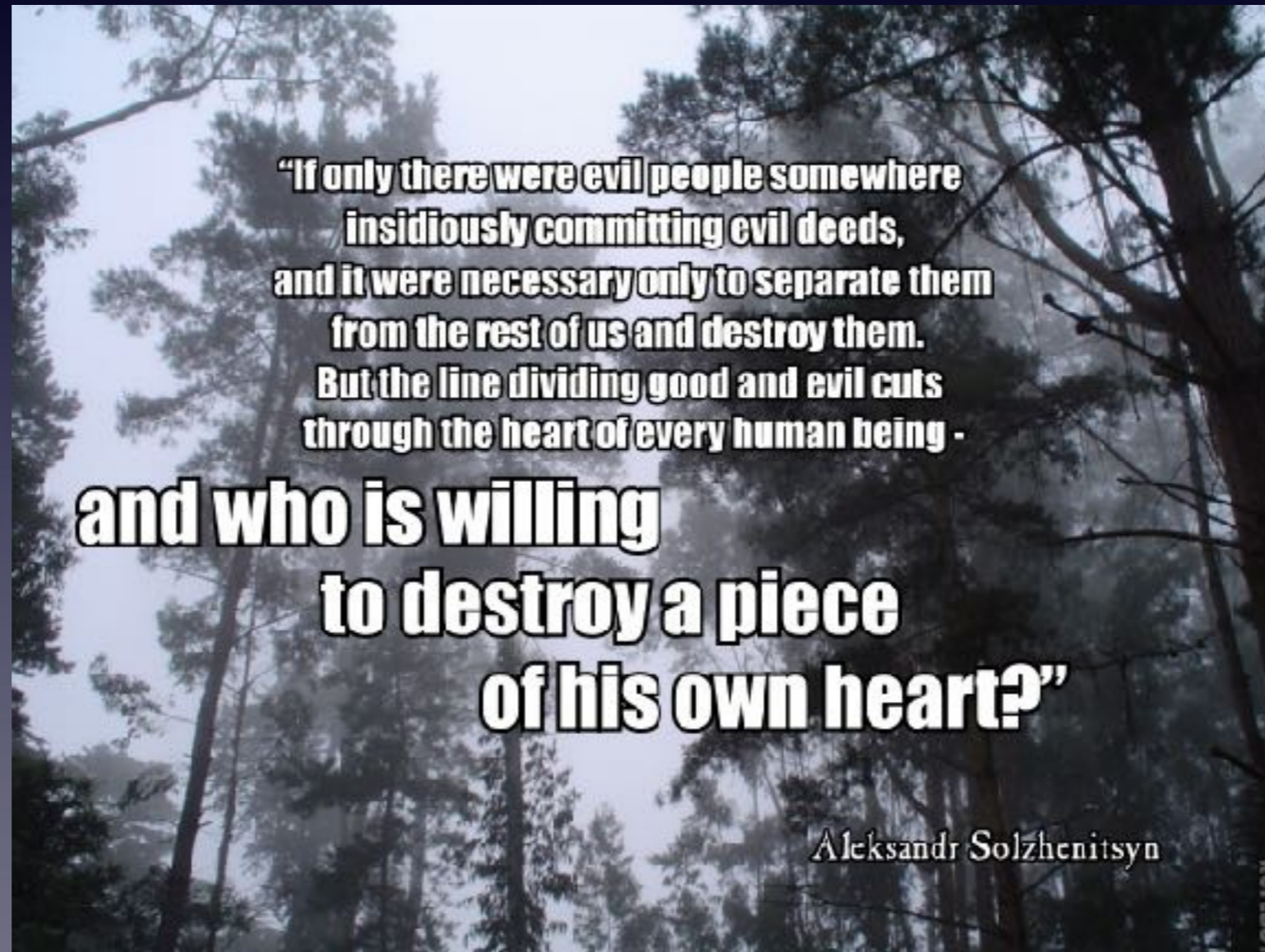
- "This is how I interpret that passage now"
- She focuses on what Jesus actually said - "When you ignore the poor, the hungry, the thirsty etc. it was ME you ignored."
- Who will actually be punished? rewarded? Those who thought they had possessed the right beliefs and looked down on those they believed were wrong or less righteous.
- These actually discovered to their chagrin that - "Jesus seemed more concerned about how people lived than about what they believed." (p, 210)

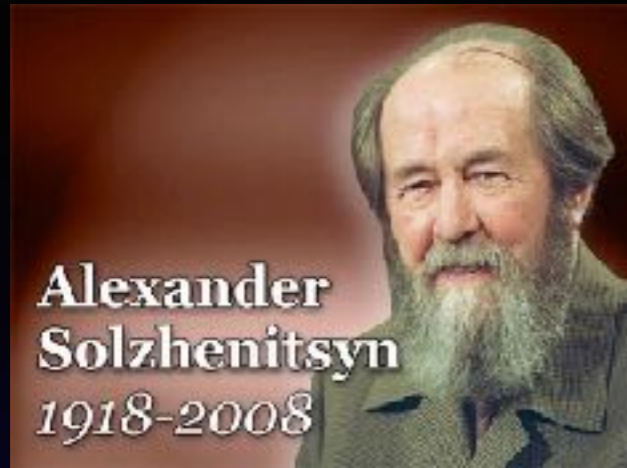




# Focus on Chapter 12

## The Final Exam





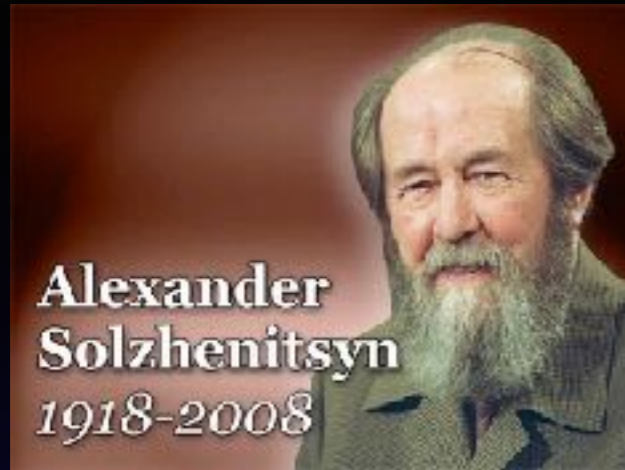
# Focus on Chapter 12

## The Final Exam

The meaning of earthly existence lies not, as we have grown used to thinking, in prospering but in the development of the soul.

Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn

quoteancy



## Focus on Chapter 12

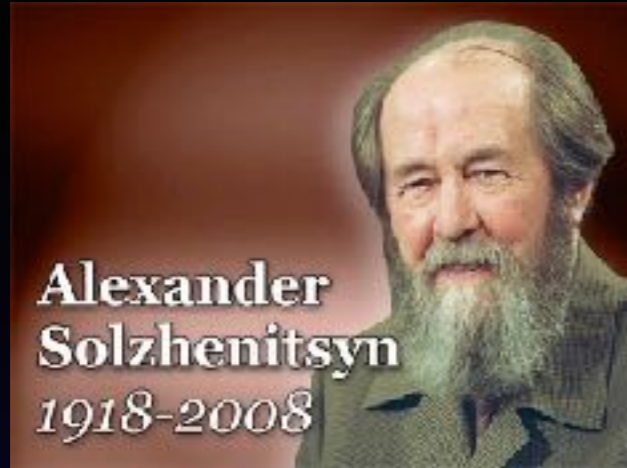
# The Final Exam

**NOT EVERYTHING  
HAS A NAME. SOME  
THINGS LEAD US  
INTO A REALM  
BEYOND WORDS.**

Alexander Solzhenitsyn

GEOTEHD.COM

Russian



## Focus on Chapter 12

# The Final Exam

**Of course God is  
endlessly multi-  
dimensional so every  
religion that exists on  
earth represents some  
face, some side of God.**

QUOTEHD.COM

Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn  
Russian Author



Focus on Epilogue

## **Church of the Common Ground**

Continuing the quest to find UNITY in the  
midst of DIVERSITY.

Encountering the faiths of others can  
bring out both the best and the worst in  
ourselves and others. It is not an easy  
exchange, but we really have no choice  
today.



Focus on Epilogue

## **Church of the Common Ground**

- There is no such thing as religion, only religious people (p. 216)
- The more personal our interfaith quest becomes, the better.
- We have tried to do that in this course.

**- discuss**



Focus on Epilogue

## **Church of the Common Ground**

Richard Rohr writes of "living on the inside of the edge" -

“Being free to live with the core faith you already have, and the new discoveries that you will make on your quest.”

**What does this mean? Discuss.**



Focus on Epilogue

## **Church of the Common Ground**

“I want to “keep leaving my comfort zone on a regular basis” and “pressing the boundaries of my own faith.” (p. 218)





# Perigrination

Holy Places of Pilgrimage,  
and Spiritual Challenge

Celtic perigrination is "having a tendency to wander.

- St. Patrick was called to return to the place of his slavery.
- St. Ninian called to evangelize the Scots of Galloway.
- St. Brendan called to cast off in his small boat to bring the light of Christ to the Norse.
- St. Columba was forced to move to the rocky, yew-covered isle we call Iona.



## **An Aerial View of Iona**

A place of pilgrimage.  
excerpt - 1m

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mq\\_oel810kg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mq_oel810kg)




## **Iona - A Thin Place**

excerpt - 1m

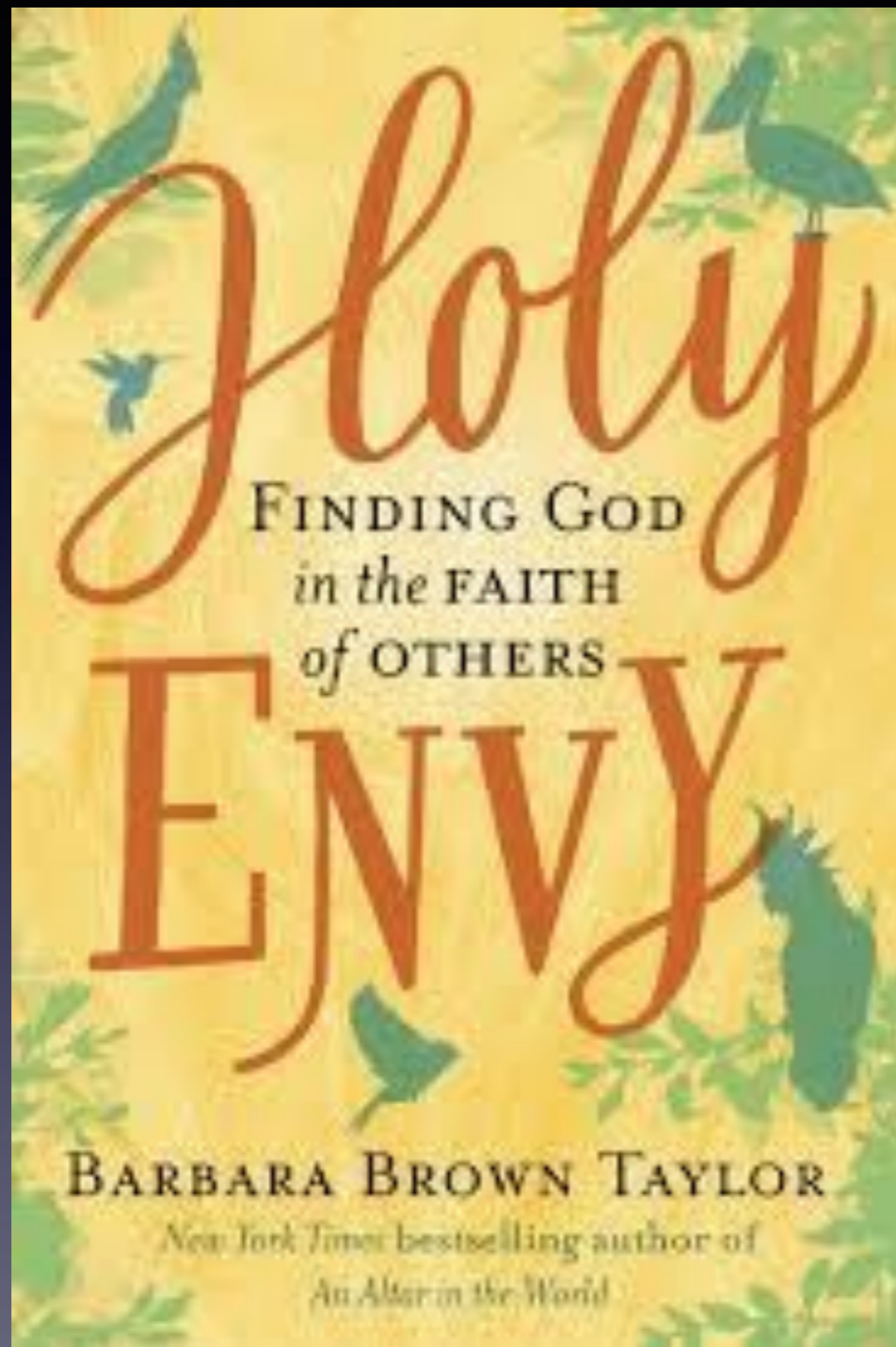
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ocBl16Mw8mE>



 French Children's Choir  
France

**What a Wonderful World**  
Playing for Change - 3m40s

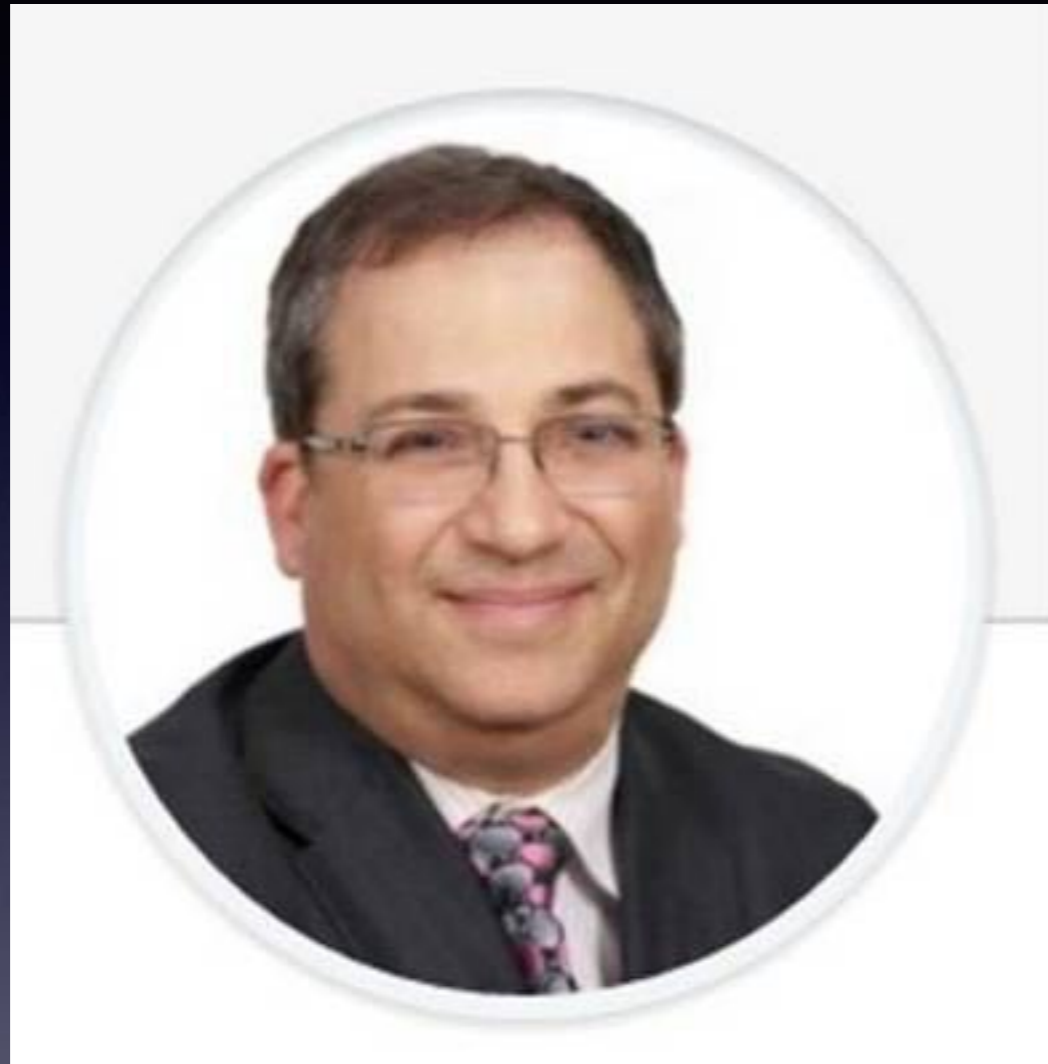
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ddLd0QRf7Vg>



# Closing Discussion

Finding God  
in the Faith of  
Others

Brenda



# Thoughts from Toronto

Mike  
Grammer

## **Thoughts from Mike Grammer:**

I'm clearly not cut out to be a monk. Shutting \*me\* up would be a herculean task that even God would have some work to accomplish. But I have realized just now a very intrinsic thing. Though my faith and spiritual and religious quest is mine to make alone, the goals, the high points of that quest MUST come by way of a community. My memory casts back to last November, when I was in Tel Aviv, talking on the phone with Deb, still coming to terms with the spectre of my mom's cancer. And trying to assimilate the Pittsburgh synagogue massacre. And I vividly remember her telling me how all of you went to synagogue, not only in support of your Jewish fellow parishioners, but because of me and in support of me. I felt awed by and even fearful of the power of my religion and my faith, to inspire such a response. That kind of confirmation of worth is wonderful---but terrifying too. When I think of \*that\\* conversation, I think I find myself closest to what she has expounded of her feelings in this book. I want all of you to know how important a role you have played, even at a distance, in my personal journey and greater understanding of faith, religion and spirituality. Thank you all.