

OVERVIEW OF "SACRED PATHWAYS" BY GARY THOMAS

score	PATHWAY	DESCRIPTION / PRACTICES	EXAMPLES	CAUTIONS
	Naturalists	Worshiping God by experiencing Nature Get outside. Prayer walks. Reflecting on the beauty, complexity, magnitude of God's creation.	John the Baptist Moses; St Francis of Assisi; Jesus; David; Ray Barrett	Worship nature: (God is not in nature); isolationism
	sensates	Worshiping God through the 5 senses. Art, music, Communion incense.	John; Priests; Bach; Joyce Sandberg Jeff Westrum; Ben Wohlrs	Senses can deceive; worshiping feelings; idolizing beauty; worshiping worship
	TRADITIONALISTS	Worshiping God through symbols, rituals, and revisiting ancient practices. Incorporate symbols, personal qt rituals, historic celebrations, creeds, biographies, calendar items, daily bread.	Jesus; Abraham; Paul; Josh Bales	Empty rituals; judging others; too heavenly minded
	ASCETICS	Worshiping God through solitude, simplicity, and self-denial. Remove all distractions, get alone with God. Purge your life of clutter and unnecessary things. Set strict spiritual goals. Fasting. Taking Retreats. Practicing the disciplines. Observing Lent	John the Baptist; Nazarites; Jesus; Mark Forstrom;	Spiritual superiority complex; seeking pain for it own sake; a works based religion
	ACTIVISTS	Worshiping God by trying to change the world. Get involved in social and political action, writing letters, getting involved in school board decisions, researching, running for office, etc	Moses; Elijah; Martha; William Wallace; John Wesley; Francis Schaeffer; Dr. Dobson; the Rosenthals; Robin Chase	Being judgmental; preoccupation with statistics; lack of faith in God's sovereignty; lack of personal sanctification
	ENTHUSIASTS	Worshiping God Expressively with Celebration and Mystery. Enthusiastic worship with imagination and wonder at the mystery of God. Getting caught up in the celebration of God's presence. Expectancy. Dreams.	King David Paul & Silas Matt Kearney	Seeking experience for it's own sake. Being independent. Equating good feelings with good worship.
	CONTEMPLATIVES	Worshiping God though Meditation and Adoration. Meditation; Centering prayers;	David (Ps 63) Mary Mark Forstrom	Secular / Sacred dichotomy Absorbing into God (new age) Getting soft on sin; Worshiping experience; isolation
	INTELLECTUALS	Worshiping God with the Mind. Be involved in biblical studies; systematic theology; apologetics.	Solomon; Jesus; Paul. Martin Luther; C.S. Lewis; Lee Strobal; Charley Snodgrass	Loving controversy Knowing rather than doing Pride
	CARE GIVERS	Worshiping God by loving others. Following Matthew 25 "the least of these". Volunteer at various helping ministries	Jesus; Good Samaritan; Mother Theresa; Henry Davison	Judging; serving ourselves; neglecting those closest to us