

SESSION TITLES

GOD | FAITH IS A QUEST

RELIGION | SPIRITUALITY IS NOT ENOUGH

JESUS | THE REVOLUTION OF LOVE

SALVATION | ABUNDANT LIFE NOW

CROSS | WHERE GOD IS

BIBLE | A BOOK LIKE NO OTHER

CHURCH | AN IMPERFECT FAMILY

ABOUT THESE JOURNAL PAGES

Welcome to animate! This Journal is designed to accompany you on your journey through this session. Flip through the pages, jot notes, sketch ideas, and make it your own. This is your journal and you get to decide when to stop and linger and when to keep moving.

RELIGION | SPIRITUALITY IS NOT ENOUGH
LILLIAN DANIEL



Reclaiming Religion

FOR LILLIAN DANIEL, FAITH ISN'T SOMETHING WE MAKE FOR OURSELVES. IT'S A LONG, HARDY TRADITION THAT WE ENTER AND ADD TO. SHE PUSHES BACK AT THE IDEA THAT IT'S POSSIBLE TO BE "SPIRITUAL" WITHOUT BEING "RELIGIOUS."

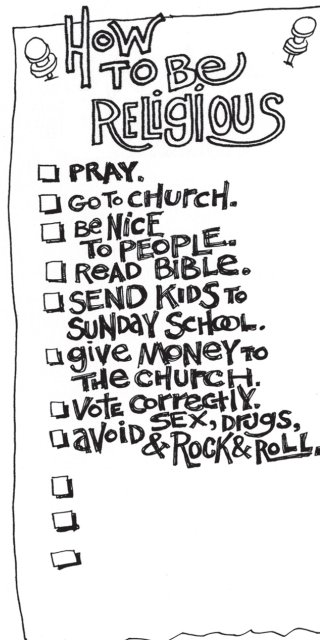
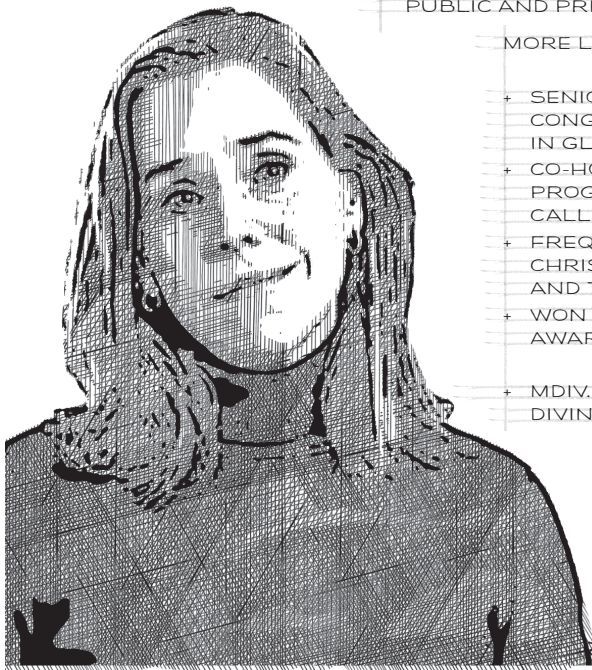
FOR MANY PEOPLE TODAY, THIS QUESTION OF WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A PERSON OF FAITH HAS BECOME A STICKING POINT. IT KEEPS SOME PEOPLE AWAY FROM THE CHURCH. IT KEEPS OTHERS CLINGING TO TRADITIONS THAT MAY HAVE LOST THEIR MEANING. SO WHAT SHOULD WE MAKE OF THIS OFTEN MUDDY, WEEDY GARDEN OF RELIGION THAT WE FIND OURSELVES IN?

LILLIAN'S BOOKS:

- TELL IT LIKE IT IS: RECLAIMING THE PRACTICE OF TESTIMONY
- THIS ODD AND WONDROUS CALLING: THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LIVES OF TWO MINISTERS

MORE LILLIAN TRIVIA:

- SENIOR MINISTER OF FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH IN GLEN ELLYN, ILLINOIS
- CO-HOSTS A WEEKLY TV PROGRAM IN CHICAGO CALLED 30 GOOD MINUTES
- FREQUENT CONTRIBUTOR TO CHRISTIAN CENTURY MAGAZINE AND THE HUFFINGTON POST
- WON THE DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD AT YALE DIV. SCHOOL
- M.DIV. FROM YALE UNIVERSITY DIVINITY SCHOOL



LILLIAN SUGGESTS THAT IT'S A GOOD THING TO BE PART OF SOMETHING BIGGER THAN OURSELVES. HOW DOES THAT IDEA SIT WITH YOU WHEN IT COMES TO RELIGION?

DO YOU THINK OF YOURSELF AS A RELIGIOUS PERSON?

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN TO YOU? ADD YOUR THOUGHTS TO THE CHECKLIST.

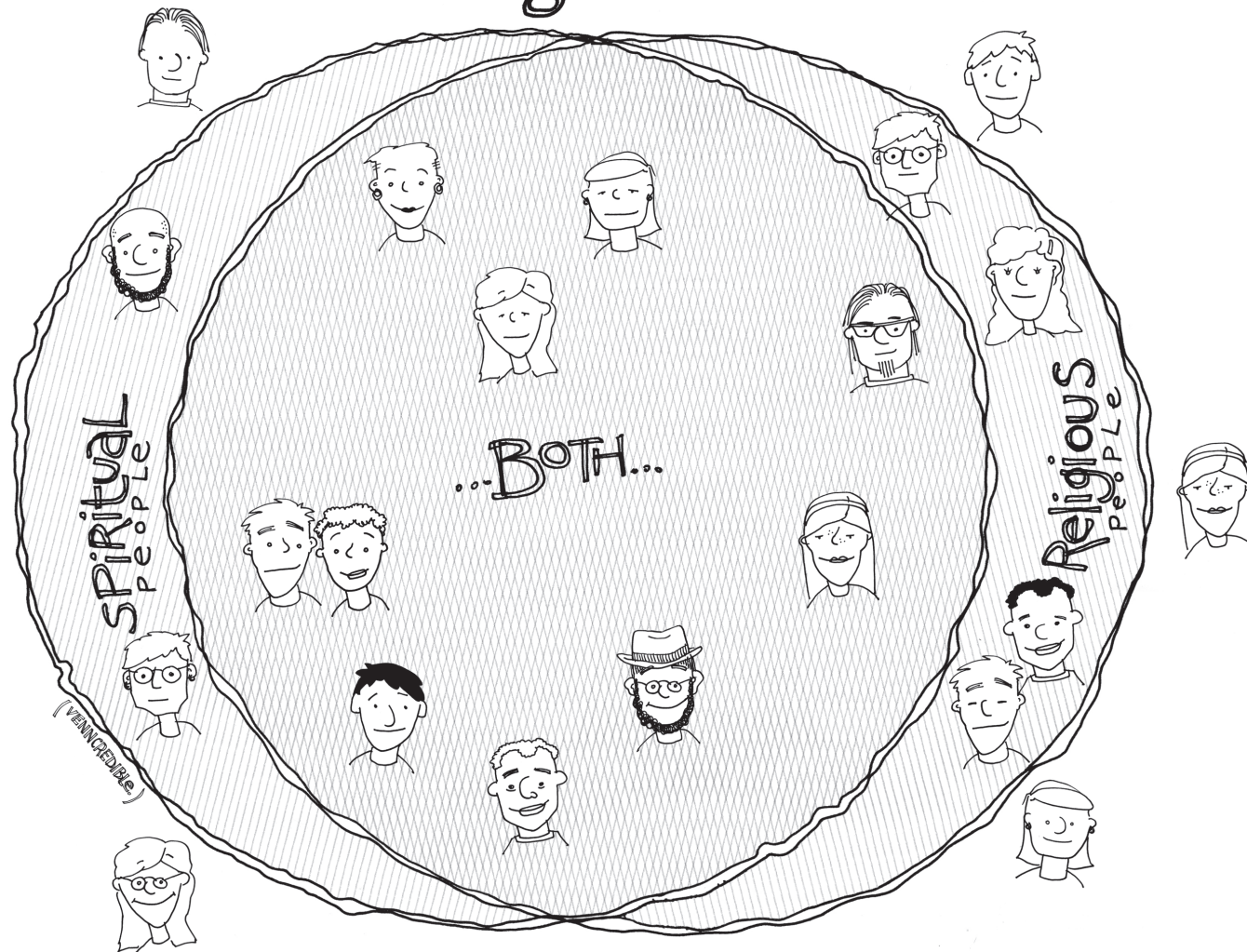
I think ^{THAT WHEN} we **invent** OUR OWN SPIRITUALITY, ^{WITH A flower FROM HERE AND ANOTHER FROM THERE,} it's a bouquet ^{that DOESN'T live LONG.}

Religious Traditions ^{created over TIME, AND, THANK GOD BY PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT ME,} THOSE HAVE A LONGER SHELF LIFE.

THE ^{beauty OF A} **LONG** TRADITION ^{is} THAT IT IS **BIGGER** ^{THAN ANYTHING WE COULD DO BY} OURSELVES.

Lillian Daniel

Spiritual ^{but} ~~and not~~ Religious



ACCORDING TO MOST RESEARCH, NEARLY 90% OF THE PEOPLE ON THE PLANET BELIEVE IN A DIVINE BEING AND MAKE SENSE OF THIS BELIEF THROUGH SOME KIND OF ORGANIZED RELIGION. SO WHY DO PEOPLE TEND TO REJECT "ORGANIZED RELIGION"?

WHAT WOULD IT LOOK LIKE TO BE SPIRITUAL WITHOUT BEING RELIGIOUS?

Building a Framework



WHAT IF WE THOUGHT ABOUT
RELIGION—THE GREAT CLOUD OF
WITNESSES—AS THE FRAMEWORK
ON WHICH OUR FAITH GROWS?
IT HOLDS US UP, HELPS US MAKE
SENSE OF OUR EXPERIENCES; IT
CONNECTS OUR STORY TO THE
STORIES OF THE PAST AND THE
STORIES OF THE FUTURE. WOULD
THAT LANGUAGE CHANGE THE
WAY YOU THINK ABOUT RELIGION?

WHAT CAN WE DO WITH THOSE PLACES IN THE GARDEN
THAT ARE UGLY OR DANGEROUS OR UNPLEASANT?

DOES THE BEAUTY OF THE TRADITION
OVERSHADOW THE UGLINESS?

Seeding the Soil

WHAT'S BEEN VALUABLE IN
YOUR TRADITION?

WHAT HAVE YOU GATHERED FROM
OTHER TRADITIONS THAT HAVE MADE
YOUR FAITH MORE MEANINGFUL?

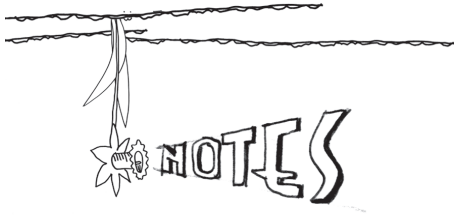
ADD SOME "PLANTS"
TO YOUR GARDEN—
THE YOGA RETREAT,
YOUR GRANDPA'S
JUDAISM, SOME
WEIRD BOOK THAT'S
SPIRITUAL BUT NOT
RELIGIOUS—THINGS
THAT HAVE SHAPED
YOUR RELIGIOUS
EXPERIENCE.



Blooming

LILLIAN FOUND HER
PLACE IN "A GARDEN
BIGGER THAN MY OWN."
HAVE YOU FOUND
YOUR PLACE?

IF NOT, WHAT KIND OF
PRUNING OR FERTILIZER
DO YOU NEED TO
PUT DOWN ROOTS
AND BLOOM IN THE
CHRISTIAN TRADITION?



NOTES

