

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

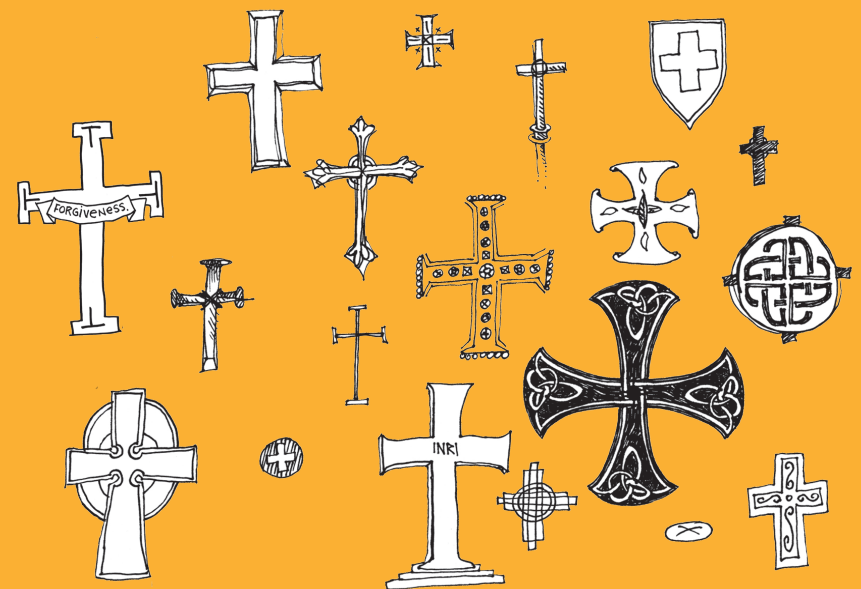
BIBLE | A BOOK LIKE NO OTHER

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.

CROSS | WHERE GOD IS
NADIA BOLZ-WEBER



Nadia Bolz-Weber



NADIA BOLZ-WEBER HAS BEEN THE PASTOR OF HOUSE FOR ALL SINNERS AND SAINTS IN DENVER SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 2008. IN 2008, HER FIRST BOOK, *SALVATION ON THE SMALL SCREEN*, DOCUMENTED HER EXPERIENCE OF WATCHING 24 CONSECUTIVE HOURS OF THE TRINITY BROADCAST NETWORK.

SINCE THEN, SHE HAS CONTINUED TO SPEAK, PREACH, AND WRITE ABOUT THE DELICATE BALANCE BETWEEN THE ANCIENT LITURGICAL TRADITIONS OF HER DENOMINATION AND THE POSTMODERN SENSIBILITIES OF TODAY'S CHRISTIANS.

FOR NADIA, THE CROSS TELLS US AS MUCH ABOUT THE NATURE OF GOD AS IT DOES ABOUT THE STATE OF HUMANITY.

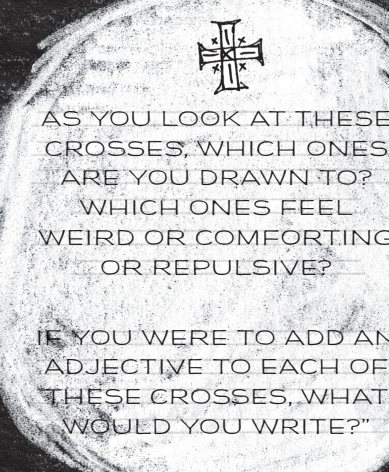
MORE NADIA TRIVIA

- + ORDAINED LUTHERAN MINISTER, ELCA
- + WORKED AS A STAND-UP COMEDIAN
- + COLLECTS BELT BUCKLES
- + BLOGS AT SARCASTICLUTHERAN.COM
- + BA IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES FROM UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO AT BOULDER
- + MDIV FROM THE ILIFF SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

NADIA'S BOOKS:

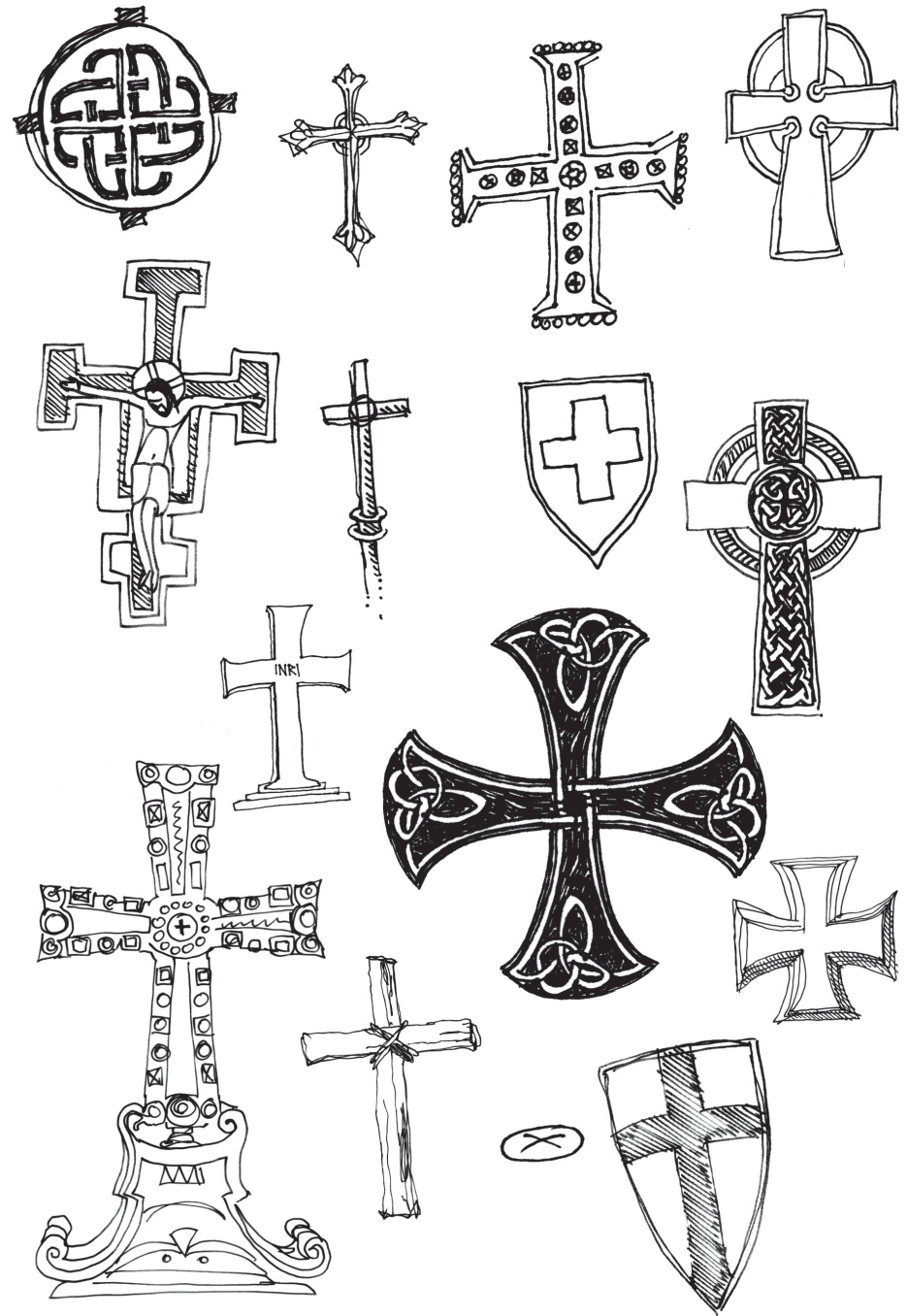
- + *SALVATION ON THE SMALL SCREEN*

A PAIR OF NADIA'S TATTOOS READ "SIMIL IUSTUS ET PECCATOR" WHICH MEANS "SIMULTANEOUSLY SAINT AND SINNER" IN LATIN. CENTRAL TO NADIA'S UNDERSTANDING OF FAITH IS THIS IDEA THAT HUMAN BEINGS ARE A MIX OF CONTRADICTIONS AND THAT THERE IS ALWAYS SOME TENSION IN THE MIDST OF THE STORIES WE TELL. THAT'S TRUE OF THE CROSS AS WELL. THE CROSS HAS LONG CARRIED IT'S OWN SEEMING CONTRADICTIONS. IT IS A SYMBOL OF DESTRUCTION AND RENEWAL, DEATH AND LIFE, OPPRESSION AND FREEDOM. THIS TENSION BETWEEN DESPAIR AND HOPE IS EVERYWHERE IN THE TWISTED ROAD OF THE CHRISTIAN STORY.



AS YOU LOOK AT THESE
CROSSES, WHICH ONES
ARE YOU DRAWN TO?
WHICH ONES FEEL
WEIRD OR COMFORTING
OR REPULSIVE?

IF YOU WERE TO ADD AN
ADJECTIVE TO EACH OF
THESE CROSSES, WHAT
WOULD YOU WRITE?"



WHAT DOES THE CROSS MEAN?

the Cross Victory

THERE ARE TWO BRANCHES OF THIS THEORY...

THIS IS BRANCH ONE

THE RANSOM THEORY

CHRISTUS VICTOR

FOR THE SON OF MAN CAME NOT TO BE SERVED BUT TO SERVE, AND TO GIVE HIS LIFE A RANSOM FOR MANY.
- MARK 10:45

RANSOM THEORY: ORIGIN (84-253)

CHRISTUS VICTOR: GREGORY & NYSSA (335-395)

SINCE THEREFORE, THE CHILDREN SHARE FLESH AND BLOOD, HE HIMSELF LIKEWISE SHARED THE SAME THINGS, SO THAT THROUGH DEATH HE MIGHT DESTROY THE ONE WHO HAS THE POWER OF DEATH, THAT IS, THE DEVIL.
- HEBREWS 2:14

NO ONE HAS GREATER LOVE THAN THIS, TO LAY DOWN ONE'S LIFE FOR ONE'S FRIENDS.
- JOHN 15:13

THE CROSS AS A MORAL LESSON

JESUS

IS THE PERFECT MAN, SO IN HIS DEATH, HE IS THE EXAMPLE OF

GOD'S PURE SELFLESSNESS

JESUS A+

MOST FAMOUS PROponent: PETER ABELARD (1079-1140)

THE CROSS

AS THE SATISFACTION OF GOD'S WRATH

SUBSTITUTION & THE SCAPEGOAT

THIS THEORY HAS TWO BRANCHES AS WELL...

BUT GOD PROVES HIS LOVE FOR US IN THAT WHILE WE STILL WERE SINNERS CHRIST DIED FOR US. MUCH MORE SURELY THEN, NOW THAT WE HAVE BEEN JUSTIFIED BY HIS BLOOD, WILL WE BE SAVED THROUGH HIM FROM THE WRATH OF GOD.
- ROMANS 5:8-9

HE HIMSELF BECAME OUR SIN IN HIS BODY ON THE CROSS, SO THAT, FREE FROM SIN, WE MIGHT LIVE FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS; BY HIS WOUNDS YOU HAVE BEEN HEALED
1 PETER 2:24

the Cross AS A MEANS of Transformation

MOST FAMOUS PROponent: KENNETH (2ND CENTURY)

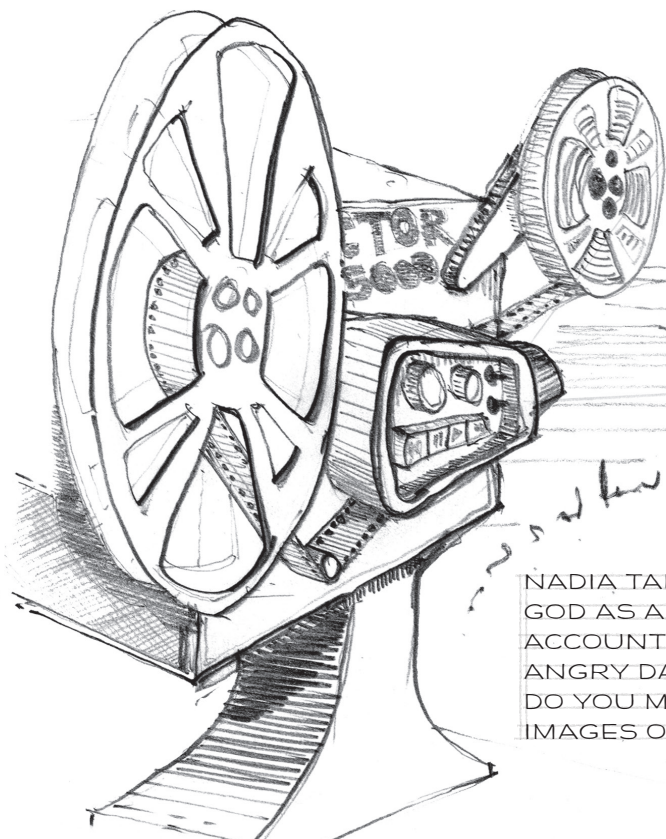
THROUGH THE CROSS, GOD OPENS A DOOR BY WHICH HUMANS CAN BECOME HOLY AND MORE LIKE GOD.

THUS HE HAS GIVEN US, THROUGH THESE THINGS, HIS PRECIOUS AND GREAT PROMISES, SO THAT THROUGH THEM YOU MAY ESCAPE THAT IS IN THE WORLD BECAUSE OF LUST, AND MAY BECOME PARTICIPANTS IN THE DIVINE NATURE
- 2 PETER 1:4

THERE ARE FOUR PRIMARY THEORIES THAT CONTINUE TO SHAPE OUR IDEAS ABOUT THE CROSS AND THE ATONEMENT:

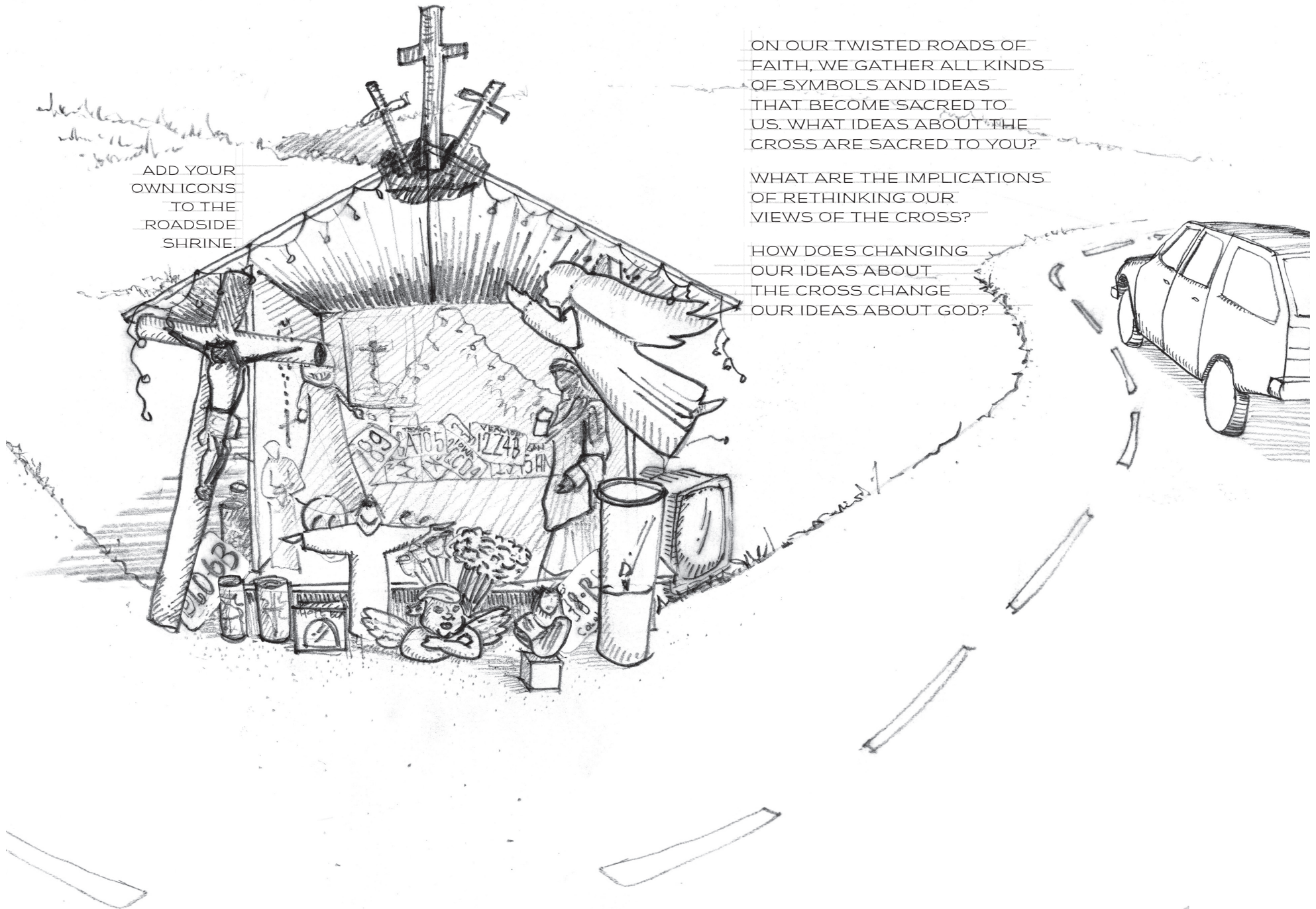
JUST AS THERE ARE MANY IMAGES OF THE CROSS, THERE HAVE BEEN MANY WAYS OF UNDERSTANDING THE CROSS OVER THE CENTURIES, EACH ONE TRYING TO ANSWER THE QUESTION "WHAT EXACTLY WAS ACCOMPLISHED ON THE CROSS?"

THE DISCUSSIONS ABOUT
THE CROSS ARE REALLY
DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THE
NATURE OF GOD. THAT'S WHY
THEY ARE DIFFICULT, EVEN
TUMULTUOUS, CONVERSATIONS
WITHIN THE CHURCH. THE
CONFLICT COMES BACK TO
THIS DICHOTOMY WE FIND IN
SO MUCH OF OUR FAITH. IS GOD
LOVING OR VENGEFUL? IS IT
POSSIBLE FOR GOD TO BE BOTH?



NADIA TALKS ABOUT
GOD AS A DIVINE
ACCOUNTANT OR AN
ANGRY DADDY. WHAT
DO YOU MAKE OF THESE
IMAGES OF GOD?

NADIA SAYS WE TAKE
THE BEST AND WORST
PARTS OF OURSELVES
AND PROJECT THEM ON
GOD. HAVE YOU FOUND
YOURSELF DOING THIS?
WRITE YOUR THOUGHTS
ON THE "SCREEN."



ADD YOUR
OWN ICONS
TO THE
ROADSIDE
SHRINE.

ON OUR TWISTED ROADS OF
FAITH, WE GATHER ALL KINDS
OF SYMBOLS AND IDEAS
THAT BECOME SACRED TO
US. WHAT IDEAS ABOUT THE
CROSS ARE SACRED TO YOU?

WHAT ARE THE IMPLICATIONS
OF RETHINKING OUR
VIEWS OF THE CROSS?

HOW DOES CHANGING
OUR IDEAS ABOUT
THE CROSS CHANGE
OUR IDEAS ABOUT GOD?

