

Syncopated Grace: Times and Seasons with God

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Chapter One: PERSISTENT PATTERNS

Moments of grace, epiphanies, and great insights are lost to us because we are in too much of a hurry to notice them.

Frederic and Mary Ann Brusatt in *Spiritual Literacy*

Chapter Two: MUNDANE MEANDERINGS

The ordinary is precisely God's way of working miracles. What we call ordinary is as miraculous as the extraordinary, though we do not see it thus because we are used to it.

Ernesto Cardenal in *Abide in Love*

Chapter Three: DISRUPTIVE DISCORDS

Although it is made of thin, delicate strands, the web is not easily broken. However, a web gets torn everyday by the insects that kick around in it, and a spider must rebuild it when it gets full of holes.

E. B. White in *Charlotte's Webb*

Chapter Four: REVEALING RESURRECTIONS

In the Spirit-giving resurrected Christ we find that the mystery, the wonder, the suffering and the glory are one. He stands as humanity's future saying, "Behold, I make all things new."

Don E. Saliers in *Worship and Spirituality*

Chapter Five: SABBATH RENEWAL

Keeping Sabbath involves rhythm-breaking as well as falling into God's rhythm and developing a new rhythm altogether.

Kenda Creasy Dean and Ron Foster in *The Godbearing Life*

Chapter Six: PENTECOST POWER

It is a blessed thing to know that no power on earth, no temptation, no human frailty can dissolve what God holds together.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer in *Letters and Papers from Prison*

Chapter Seven: RESONATING RHYTHMS

Sacred spacemaking breaks the rhythm of the ordinary and punctuates it with moments of God-consciousness.

Kenda Creasy Dean and Ron Foster in *The Godbearing Life*

Chapter Eight: EMMAUS EPIPHANIES

No one knows what lies ahead when we say yes to God! To accept God's invitation to a creative relationship requires learning different rhythms. These rhythms sustain us and pull us into a dance set to the heartbeat of God.

Jan L. Richardson in *Sacred Journeys*

¹ Chapters in the book published by Upper Room Books, 2002.