

PROFESSIONAL GROWTH BOOKS 2012

The North American Division of Education is happy to bring you the annual listing of the Professional Growth Books. Some of these books are written by non-Adventist authors and, therefore, may not fully reflect Seventh-day Adventist philosophy. However, we believe there is value in these books which have been selected to inspire, bring insight, and challenge your thinking.

To secure a Professional Growth Certificate for the 2011-2012 school year, you should read the five issues of the *Journal of Adventist Education*, at least one book from Group B, and at least four additional books from two or more other headings. Some books may have been listed under two headings and will count for either group. One book of your choice which could be classified under any of these headings may be substituted for a book on this list.

GROUP A - READER'S CHOICE

Torn, Jacob's Story, by Ed Dickerson, Pacific Press Publishing Association, 2009, 317 pages.

Soft-cover List Price \$19.99 Amazon \$9.95

The Biblical story of Jacob has been read throughout the years but never has an account of his life been detailed as this story reads. The colorful language and background information given in each chapter is so meaningful and enlightening. The significance of the events taking place in his life are understood as they relate to the culture of the day.

You will be certain to enjoy this comprehensive retelling of the story of Jacob from his birth to his death, plus you'll get a little lesson in Hebrew.

GROUP B - DEVOTIONAL AND SPIRITUAL GROWTH

A God Named Desire, by Ty Gibson, Pacific Press Publishing Association, 2010, 192 pages.

Hard-cover List Price \$17.99 Amazon \$17.95

Ty Gibson says that you will never see God the same way after you read and understand his book. He is so right. He explores God's love through his one word chapter titles such as Engineered, Concentric, Sex, Sundering, Reciprocal—to name a few. Sundering is a word not heard or used often and who would think to use the word reciprocal, a word often used in a math class? This book also has many one-line paragraphs, making it fun and easy to read. After

reading this book you will understand the meaning of that desire in your heart that longs for something more.

Caught Between Two Worlds, by Karl Haffner, Pacific Press Publishing Association, 2010, 143 pages.

Soft-cover List Price \$14.99 Amazon \$11.99

In this book one will find a survival guide for the Christian for end-time living using I and II Peter as the primary resource. The chapters are taken apart and discussed chronologically and topically. The book is very interesting but one chapter really caught my attention—Submission to the Boss—II Peter 2:18-20. This chapter is a quick refresher course to help remember how to conduct one's self in the work place. In the summary of I Peter, three survival strategies are highlighted—sanctification, suffering and sacrifice. In II Peter one is admonished to “keep on.” Keep on growing, keep on trusting, keep on believing, keep on remembering God's promises and mostly to keep on growing in grace.

Come Walk with Me, by Jim Hohnberger, Pacific Press Publishing Association, 2010, 159 pages.

Hard-cover List Price \$16.99 Amazon \$14.95

Are you waiting for God or is God waiting for you? This is the first question the book asks. Our walk with God begins with hearing His voice through the scriptures. If one has trouble hearing God's voice it might be because one's ear is not open. We read how to open the ear through these three suggested levels of preparation: level one, educating the conscience; level two, learning to listen; and level three, a process of discovery. Many interesting anecdotes are told describing how our walk with God shows itself in all aspects of our lives. I really enjoyed his openness in the story about the Maytag washer. The questions at the end of each chapter are thought provoking and reason enough to read this book.

The Promise of Peace, by Charles Scriven, Pacific Press Publishing Association, 2009, 174 pages.

Soft-cover List Price \$13.99 Amazon \$12.00

God promised Abraham that He would make of his seed a great nation and that He would bless them and make them a blessing to others. This was the Great Promise which the prophet Ezekiel describes as a “covenant of peace.” This book, written for present Adventists, potential Adventists or doubting Adventists, guides one to become a partner with God in the covenant of peace to help bring prosperity and well being to today's society. God's mission becomes their mission.

Upon completion of this book you will have had a wonderful Bible study because the scripture index starts with Genesis 1:1 and ends with Revelation 22:7-9. Within these scriptures we are challenged to dare to live the advent hope.

GROUP C - SPIRIT OF PROPHECY

Ellen White under Fire, by *Jud Lake*, Pacific Press Publishing Association, 2010, 351 pages.

Hard-cover List Price \$24.99 Amazon \$24.99

Another must read about Ellen White. Presently there are web sites that vehemently criticize her work; well this book was written specifically to dispel the false information and accusations ascribed to her writings. The three parts of this book are thorough in their dealing with the critics. Part I shows the intensity of the critics and the nature of Ellen White apologetics (branch of theology that deals with the defense of a religious faith on the basis of reason). Part II deals with the real issues that underlie the criticisms. Part III not only helps understand the biblical framework for Mrs. White's ministry but gives strategies for responding when confronted by her critics. Each chapter has a summary and a conclusion to help reinforce the material.

101 Questions about Ellen White and Her Writings, by *William Fagal*, Pacific Press Publishing Association, 2010, 224 pages.

Soft-cover List Price \$13.99 Amazon \$12.00

William Fagal is an Associate Director of the Ellen G. White Estate which has many visitors each year with many questions. He has compiled 101 of the most frequently asked and most controversial questions with documented and referenced responses. There are questions about her inspiration, her spiritual life, health and diet, standards of the church, miscellaneous questions and almost any area you can think of.

Because of the way the book is organized you can read any one question and answer in its entirety without reading the whole book; however, the book is so interesting you'll need to plan to give it much time once you start reading it.

GROUP D - BACKGROUND FOR TEACHING

When Athens Met Jerusalem, by *John Mark Reynolds*, Inter Varsity Press, 2009, 226 pages.

Soft-cover List Price \$22.00 Amazon \$8.80

When Athens Met Jerusalem is an artistic and poetic tour of Greek philosophy, covering Socratics, Plato, Aristotle and the Neo-Platonists, Epicureans, and Stoics. The stated purpose of

this tour is to “tell the story of Greek philosophy and how it helped prepare the way for Christianity”.

Early on, the author shows with fine detail and artistic language how some of the early Christian fathers, Aquinas, Calvin, etc. never fully copied Greek ideas; they accepted some, rejected some, modified others and freely used many.

Not only in religion and philosophy, but also in art, literature, and architecture, he describes in vivid detail how buildings and books of the west contain biblical references to the eastern cultures. Specific references describe how the U.S. Supreme Court is housed in a building with biblical references carved onto a structure built in the classical style of Rome and Greece.

Throughout the book, Reynolds holds true to his Christian tenets, instructing the reader with sweeping references and beautiful comparisons how Christian thought is simply incomprehensible without knowledge of classical Greek philosophy.

Reynolds has written an excellent introduction to Greek philosophy for students and interested lay people. It succeeds in describing both Greek philosophy and its inherent connection to Christian thought.

GROUP E - TEACHERS' PERSONAL GROWTH

Finding Mrs. Warnecke, by Cindi Riggsbee, Josey-Bass, 2010, 141 pages.

Hard-cover List Price \$19.95 Amazon \$9.95

Mrs. Warnecke was the second first grade teacher of Cindi, a small, shy, and troubled little girl. Cindi was moved (along with other children) out of the first teacher's room after a month because of over-crowding. This story tells how this move from a teacher's room who disliked her to Mrs. Warnecke's room changed her life and how Mrs. Warnecke influenced her even after she became a grown-up and a teacher herself. Cindi first received bad evaluations her first few years of teaching then she recounted her earlier years as a student in Mrs. Warnecke's class and practiced her teaching style and love. This changed her so much that she went from bad evaluations to the 2009 teacher of the year. This is a loving story and it reminds us that we are teaching not for a day but for a lifetime.

Live Like You Mean It, by Troy Fitzgerald, Pacific Press Publishing Association, 2010, 223 pages.

Soft-cover List Price \$15.99 Amazon \$12.99

On the 2010 booklist Troy Fitzgerald wrote the book about questions God wants to ask you. No doubt many of you read and enjoyed that book. If you did, you already know how persuasive a

writer Mr. Fitzgerald is and you'll be sure to make this book one of your choices. He uses I and II Peter to teach how to live like we are going home to heaven.

I am bound for the promised land, I am bound for the promised land,

Oh, who will come and go with me? I am bound for the promised land.

This is the question the entire book is asking and giving information and resources and examples and justification for making the right choice. You will get wisdom for the journey home.

GROUP F - TEACHING AND LEARNING

Comprehension and Collaboration, Inquiry Circles in Action, by *Stephanie Harvey and Harvey Daniels, Heinemann, 2009, 322 pages.*

Soft-cover List Price \$31.61 Amazon \$22.80

This is a most unusual book in that unlike most books, this book can be used for all grades, kindergarten to college. It discusses research and current insight on comprehension and collaboration and inquiry circle projects and how to avoid some pitfalls associated with the topics. Next it discusses classroom conditions needed for group learning as it offers lessons for teaching comprehension and collaboration and inquiry circles. Inquiry circles are broken into four categories or types: mini inquiries, circular inquiries, literature circular inquiries, and open inquiry. Everything a teacher needs is here including management and assessment, record-keeping and grading and even problems one might encounter. A companion website is available for additional help.

Since this book can be used for all grades, icons are located in the margins telling the appropriate level the material would work best with.

Differentiating Instruction in the Regular Classroom, by *Diane Heacox, Free Spirit Publishing, 2002, 163 pages.*

Soft-cover List Price \$34.99 Amazon \$23.09

Imagine a book on differentiation not written by Carol Tomlinson-this is it, how to reach and teach all learners grades 3 – 12. A CD – ROM is included. This is my favorite of the 5 books on differentiation included on this list because it has so many helpful inventories, a student learning profile, many checklists, sample letters to send home, sample questionnaires, brief lesson plans-you get the idea-a great book on personalizing instruction. Resources galore.

Leadership for Differentiating Schools and Classrooms, by Carol Ann Tomlinson and Susan Demirsky Allan, ASCD, 2000, 168 pages.

Soft-cover List Price \$23.95 Amazon \$21.69

Today's schools are filled with so much diversity in the student body that it is not likely that all students will be reached by everyone doing the same thing at the same time all the time. If you want to learn more about personalizing instruction, including the why and the how, this book is a must read. Some of the instructional strategies highlighted in this book to reach this goal include learning centers, interest groups, learning contracts, tiered activities, and rubrics constructed jointly by teacher and student. We learn that differentiation is not something extra teachers do but a non-negotiable quality of teacher excellence. A teacher was heard to say "This differentiated instruction is difficult, frustrating, and time consuming—and I would never go back to teaching the old way!"

Leading and Managing a Differentiated Classroom, by Carol Ann Tomlinson and Marcia B. Imbeau, ASCD, 2010, 187 pages.

Soft-cover List Price \$27.95

Before a teacher can effectively address differentiation in the classroom, the concept of differentiation must be understood and certain key elements must be included in the teacher's classroom. Teachers have a responsibility to ensure that all of their students master important content. How does one do this since students differ from each other in so many different ways and these differences impact how students learn? DIFFERENTIATION. Some classrooms are chaotic or dysfunctional, some just adequate, some orderly or restrictive because a teacher runs a tight ship and some orderly enabling. Orderly enabling is the goal of differentiation.

Learning to Read the Numbers, by David J. Whitin and Phyllis E. Whitin, Routledge and the National Council of Teachers of English, 2011, 134 pages.

Soft-cover List Price \$125. Amazon \$119.52

As adults we know that we can make the numbers fit whatever point we are trying to prove. We know that, yet we tend to take them at point value. We also know that the way a question is asked has much to do with the response. The Whitins, a husband and wife team, recommend that kindergarten children be taught how to collect and analyze data and state problems and questions so there is no ambiguity in the response. They recommend that children be taught to define and refine terms so everyone understands what is being requested. Students are being taught to do the research and statistics and to reach decisions based on their findings. This early start prepares students to be critical thinkers and to not be manipulated by data.

Media Literacy is Elementary, by Jeff Share, Peter Lang Publishing, Inc., 2009, 165 pages.

Soft-cover List Price \$139.01 Amazon \$30.95

Media Literacy is a new term for many of us. We are bombarded by all kinds of media constantly. There is a great need to go beyond what is seen or heard in order to analyze what is the real intent of the message. This book is not so much a how-to book, but rather shows how media literacy works. The majority of this book is theoretical and encompasses ideas such as the importance of teaching media literacy, benefits students receive, and the need to start teaching these skills at an early age. Elementary students who are exposed to this information develop critical questioning skills and learn early to construct their own media experiences.

Mosaic of Thought, 2nd edition, The Power of Comprehension Strategy Instruction, by Ellin Oliver Keene and Susan Zimmermann, Heinemann, 2007, 292 pages.

Soft-cover List Price \$30.75 Amazon \$23.98

Thirteen years ago the first edition was published. This new edition boasts 70% new material. Thirteen years certainly is enough time for new materials to be developed with the continual innovations in education. This new book is grounded in the latest research on comprehension. Many of the chapters list key ideas for comprehension strategy study. One key idea under the topic Monitoring Meaning, states that “proficient readers are aware of the purpose of their reading and direct special attention to the parts of the text they most need to comprehend for that purpose.” That one caught my attention because that is exactly what I am doing now.

The chapters are made of the topics one would expect such as drawing inferences, evoking images, asking questions and so on.

Stirring the Head, Heart, and Soul, H. Lynn Erickson, Corwin Press, 2008, 265 pages.

Soft-cover List Price \$34.35

Lynn Erickson grabs our attention early with her “innovations as fireworks analogy.” Recognizing that educators seek innovations, she admits to embracing many innovations before the research was proven or tested. Some of these included “whole language,” and “new math,” which burst on the education scene like fireworks and most have since spun out, sputtered, or faded out like the “trailing vapors of fireworks in July.”

With this in mind, Erickson’s current book, *Stirring the Head, Heart and Soul*, discusses what is reasonable and workable in contemporary curriculum design, focusing on some of the current issues in education:

- Encouraging teachers to gain a deeper understanding of key concepts and principles.

- Engaging the personal intellect of students and teachers for a stronger degree of retention and understanding.
- Utilizing self assessment as a powerful learning tool for students and teachers.
- Focusing research on more relevant curriculum.
- Moving students from a predominate use of rote memory to higher level thinking such as analysis, synthesis, and evaluation.

Throughout the book, Erickson employs a wide variety of charts, graphs, learning experiences, and even cartoons to make her points, thus keeping interest up and strengthening motivation for continued exploration.

Now in its third printing, this book has gained reputation as an excellent and invaluable resource that challenges the intellect and fosters greater understanding of the world around us.

Teach Like a Champion, 49 Techniques that Put Students on the Path to College, by *Doug Lemov, Josey-Bass, 2010, 332 pages.*

Soft-cover List Price \$27.95 Amazon \$15.09

This book is for Kindergarten -12th grade students. I can promise you that this book is a real page turner, all 332 pages of it. These effective teaching practices have been tried and tested, researched and proven to bring meaningful achievement to our students. Students who were taught using the skills outlined in this text were from low income, non-affluent homes, yet they outperformed all others they were compared with, even students from high income, affluent homes. Another plus for this book is the DVD that comes with it giving examples of the techniques mentioned in the text. The reader is alerted if an example is available on the DVD.

The Differentiated Classroom, Responding to the Needs of All Learners, by *Carol Ann Tomlinson, Pearson Education, Inc., 2005, 132 pages.*

Soft-cover List Price \$21.95 Amazon \$14.99

.Carol Tomlinson makes this book interesting by using her personal experiences as a teacher over the past 30 years. She freely quotes the situations and the names of teachers she has worked with and the varied challenges she has observed in many classroom situations, including multitasking in a one-room school. Her references to the “joys” of teaching radiated throughout the book accentuating the reading.

This book delineates and illustrates the principles that guide a differentiated classroom. It focuses on application of instructional strategies that make it much easier to provide multiple learning paths for students. Vivid classroom examples help educators see differentiation in

action and include steps to help teachers get started with differentiation or to take it to a higher level.

Another focus was information delineating an approach to teaching that advocates active planning for and attention to student differences in the classroom.

The book is relatively short at just over one hundred pages. However, the brevity of page length is no indicator of the power of the information and the pure pleasure of the reading experience.

The Highly Engaged Classroom, by Robert J. Marzano and Debra J. Pickering with Tammy Heflebower, Marzano Research Laboratory, 2011, 224 pages.

Soft-cover List Price \$29.95 Amazon \$19.72

This book is part of “The Classroom Strategies Series,” a series that delves deeply into research and theory but goes a bit further and applies this information to classroom settings. The central thought of this book gives an understanding of how to generate high levels of attention and engagement of students. Basically, the term engagement as used here asks these questions: Is this important and can I do this? While the definition of attention answers these questions: How do I feel and am I interested? The book focuses on these four questions, giving exercises, opportunities, examples, games, models, projects and finally the resource I like the most, an internet site where the reproducibles from this book can be downloaded.

GROUP G - UNDERSTANDING STUDENTS

Mind, Brain & Education, by David A. Sousa, editor, Solution Tree Press, 2010, 302 pages.

Hard-cover List Price \$34.95 Amazon \$23.01

The book explores various areas of the emerging field of educational neuroscience which can be defined as the “intersection of psychology, and cognitive science with pedagogy.” The chapters, written by some of the major pioneers and experts in the field, explain recent discoveries about the human brain and discuss the influence these discoveries can have on teaching, learning, and emotional development. Sousa and his colleagues argue that an exploration of these chapters will give a new sense of where this new science is headed along with discovering exceptionally well documented current research in the field.

It’s not particularly easy reading, as when describing some of the complexities of how the emerging brain learns to “read,” but with intentional focus and patience, the reader will be rewarded with new insights about intelligence and academic ability.

Differentiation and the Brain, by David A. Sousa and Carol Ann Tomlinson, Solution Tree Press, 2011, 202 pages.

Soft-cover List Price \$29.95 Amazon \$18.78

With four other books here on differentiation you might wonder why another one? Why this one? It's because this one includes brain research and how its discoveries impact educational practices. At the beginning of almost every chapter a scenario is given that uses the strategies, concepts, techniques, or ideas that are discussed in the chapter. At the end of the chapter a better scenario is offered that incorporates support from research and neuroscience. You will love this book, one you will refer to often.

GROUP H - ISSUES

Beyond Common Ground, by Alden Thompson, Pacific Press Publishing Association, 2009, 254 pages.

Soft cover List Price \$16.99 Amazon \$13.96

In *Beyond Common Ground*, author Alden Thompson examines the common ground that both liberal and conservative Adventists share, and he points out that, compared to most other Christians, ALL Adventists are pretty conservative! Thompson believes that in order to have a more complete, accurate picture of God's truth, we need to consider different viewpoints which he calls the three anchors—landmarks, the law of love, and Jesus.

Throughout the rest of the book, Thompson argues that liberals and conservatives don't have to agree, nor do they have to be enemies, but that each should accept the other as sincere Christians who love God and their church and who want to be honest with what they find in the Bible. Thompson devotes much of the book to how to approach the Bible honestly, and he uses illustrations from his own life to reinforce his points. He also emphasizes the importance of an active devotional life.

The structure of the book made it easy to read and navigate with parts and chapter subdivisions. Another interesting structural and theological perspective was the insertion of quotes from the Bible, Jesus, and Ellen White on most topics.

He closes the book with a historical perspective on some of the topical issues which liberal and conservative Adventists continue to quarrel over. These include debates about landmarks vs. present church, I Corinthians debates about which New Testament preacher to follow (Peter, Paul or Appollos), and debates about doctrines of the church.

Whatever the perspective, liberal or conservative, Aldon argues persuasively that the church needs both points of view in order to grow (numerically and spiritually) and to be able to reach its mission of spreading Jesus' word of truth to the world.

RTI in Literacy-Responsive and Comprehensive, Peter H. Johnson, editor, *International Reading Association*, 2010, 384 pages.

Soft-cover List Price \$29.95 Amazon \$ 26.95

Johnston's unique approach in this book is to "turn attention away from the measurement-identification frame and focus on the instructional frame." In this way, he puts emphasis on prevention models, the development of teacher expertise, and institutional learning.

Throughout the book, Johnston makes frequent reference to the utilization of his methods in fulfilling the "No Child Left Behind" legislation. He asserts persuasively that RTI in this context is a practical way of achieving this goal now and in the future.

The book includes a comprehensive discussion guide with reflection questions and action ideas for professional development groups and teacher education classes desiring to generate new ways of thinking about learning.

ORDERING BOOKS

All books should be ordered directly from the publisher or the Adventist Book Center, not from the North American Division Office of Education. Prices also have been given, when available, for purchasing books from Amazon.com. Unlike list prices, those for Amazon.com are subject to change.

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