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INTO THE LIGHT

Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament

By P. Lynn Miller, author and artist
Suggestions for Leaders by Dee Koza

In this nine-lesson study, Lynn Miller revives lament as a proper theological response to the difficult situations of our world. One of the foundational points of the study is that, in scripture, lament usually leads to hope. After crying out to God, the one who laments remembers God. And while that doesn't fix things in the moment—the injustice, the loss, still exists—the lamenter is strengthened to face the world and to hope. And for us as Christians, hope is not just an emotional response or an attitude of pie in the sky. Hope implies movement: both God's inherent movement toward justice and our movement toward God. Recovering lament may be one of the church's most timely gifts to the world.

Lynn Miller, author and artist, is a minister of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). She received her MDiv from Union Presbyterian Seminary (Richmond, Virginia) and the DMin from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, in conjunction with the University of Aberdeen (Scotland). She has served as a workshop leader, graphic designer, and keynote speaker for conferences and gatherings on theology, worship, spirituality, education, and the arts. Lynn has been a practicing artist for 25 years. She holds undergraduate and graduate degrees in fine arts and art history. Her work is in private and church collections throughout the U.S.

Dee Koza is a certified Christian educator, commissioned lay pastor, and a commissioned ruling elder in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). A graduate of the Presbyterian School of Christian Education (Union Theological Seminary), Dee has served in presbytery and national staff positions and in seven churches as an educator. Presently, Dee serves as pastor of Geneva Presbyterian Church in Geneva, Alabama.

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The Heart of Lament



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LESSON THREE

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Lamenting Life



LESSON SIX

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LESSON NINE

The End of Lament



LESSON EIGHT

God Laments



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