

COMMITTEE REFLECTION



Prayer

Eternal God –
 Father, Son, and Holy Spirit:
 You have called us
 to be spiritual leaders
 of your body, this church.
 Help us to surrender
 our hearts and minds to you;
 To humbly seek your voice;
 To boldly do your will;
 To compassionately share your love;
 To faithfully be your servants;
 To reverently lead your people
 Bless all that we do,
 So that we can do what you bless.
 In Christ's name we pray.
 Amen.

Richard Foster, Introduction to

*Jean-Pierre de Cassaude's
 Sacrament of the Present
 Moment*

There is one implication of this practical spirituality that we need to see clearly. All who seek God have a perennial tendency to idolize the means through which he is made known to us. Perhaps it was by means of an altar call that God wonderfully broke into our lives. Perhaps it was in the reciting of a particular liturgy, or the singing of a special hymn, or the reading

of a specific book, or in the immediate quiet of our home, or while we were in a particular posture. We then take that living experience and calcify it and idolize it as *the* way to meet God. Without realizing it, we soon turn a vibrant, life-giving reality into a new legalism, which breathes death.



REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

1. What are some of the idolizations that are typical of Christians?
2. What are some of the idolizations typical in our church, denomination, or tradition?
3. As leaders of the church, how are we called to both deal with these idolizations, and to lead people to be open to all forms of experience?