
COMMITTEE STUDY

AUGUST

Prayer

Gracious God, thank you for calling us to serve you,
and to lead a congregation for those so in need of your love and grace.
You've called us to be a place where people can live in love,
and where people can experience your presence.
So be with us as we make decisions tonight.
Help us to seek your wisdom over mere human wisdom,
your logic over common logic,
and your guidance over the guidance of convention and convenience.
Help us to be your servants serving collaboratively and cooperatively,
seeking unity of heart and mind,
so that we can lead our church with your guidance, grace, and love. Amen



Anthony de Mello, Awareness

The fact is that you're surrounded by God and you don't see God because you "know" about God. The final barrier to that vision of God is your God concept. You miss God because you think you know. That's the terrible thing about religion. That's what the gospels were saying, that the religious people "knew," so they got rid of Jesus. The highest knowledge of God is to know God as unknowable. There is far too much God talk; the world is sick of it. There is too little awareness, too little love, too little happiness, but let's not use those words either. There's too

little dropping of illusions, dropping of errors, dropping of attachments and cruelty, too little awareness. That's what the world is suffering from, not from a lack of religion. Religion is supposed to be about lack of awareness, of waking up. Look what we've degenerated into.

Discussion Questions:

- How does "knowing about" God keep us from knowing God?
- What does de Mello's criticism about religion tell us about how to be a church that nurtures awareness rather than mere "knowing"?