

# Focused Devotion

Christians connecting to God in poetry • Winter 2015

## Seminar description

Christians have communicated with God through songs and poems for millennia —the Psalms are treasured examples. And in 21st century worship, we sing songs created in all sorts of times and places. But when did you last interact with God through a poem that *isn't* in the Bible?

In ***Focused Devotion*** we will draw on the Psalms and Christian poems from a wide range of writers and time periods. We'll decide what makes these writings effective and whether they deepen our faith or distract us. If you've ever said, "I don't know art, but I know what I like," then you have what it takes to join our journey.

## Seminar objectives

Become familiar with the work of at least six Christian poets. Learn a little poetic terminology, so conversation is easier. Enjoy the work of at least one Christian poet.

## Pre Requirements

Willing and able to read things!

## Materials Needed

A packet of readings for the seminar will be provided.

## *Kimbol Soques*

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### *Week 1*

January 29

- An introduction to seminar
- Class materials review
- Technique: three-pass reading
- In-class readings

### *Week 2*

February 5

- Theme: Rejoice!
- Tech: sound, imagery
- Class discussion

### *Week 3*

February 12

- Theme: Why me?
- Tech: voice, setting, symbols
- Class discussion

### *Week 4*

February 19

- Theme: I can't do this right.
- Tech: form/shape, meter
- Class discussion

### *Week 5*

February 26

- Theme: Lost & forgotten
- Class discussion

### *Week 6*

March 12

- Theme: Means to an end
- Class discussion

### *Week 7*

March 26

- Theme: (Other) Means to an end
- Class discussion

### *Week 8*

April 2

- Theme: Might, power & rescue
- Class discussion

### *Week 9*

April 9

- Theme: Everything to everyone
- Class discussion