



Richard Rohr, *Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life* (Jossey-Bass, 2011)

In the first half of life, we are naturally preoccupied with establishing ourselves; climbing, achieving, and performing. But as we grow older and encounter challenges and mistakes, we need to see ourselves in a different and more life-giving way. This message of falling down - that is in fact moving upward - is the most resisted and counterintuitive of messages in the world's religions. *Falling Upward* offers a new paradigm for understanding one of the most profound of life's mysteries: how those who have fallen down are the only ones who understand "up." We grow spiritually more by doing it wrong than by doing it right, and the disappointments of life are actually stepping stones to the spiritual joys in the second half of life. -- An editorial review.

All sessions will be on Thursdays from 10 AM to 12 noon at the Holy Cross Church Parish Hall, 1740 Cliff Drive, Santa Barbara, CA. The series fee, \$50, includes the book and all handouts. Save \$5 and pre-register by contacting BobDoering@wordandlife.us before the first meeting. Financial aid is available to encourage those on restricted budgets to attend; contact a member of the Steering Committee. www.wordandlife.us

DATE	TOPICS & CHAPTERS	DISCUSSION LEADERS	COLOR GROUPS	MC
Jan 19	Invitation to a further journey - Intro (vii-xxxvii)	Kathryn Grant	Purple	Judith M
Jan 26	Ch. 1 & 2 (pp. 1-24) - Two halves of life; heroic journey	Richard Rohr via DVD/ Bob Doering	Orange	Bob D
Feb 2	Ch. 3 (pp. 25-51) - the first half of life	Dawn George	Red	Martha S
Feb 9	Ch. 4 & 5 (pp.53-72) - The tragic sense of life; stumbling	Ann Jaqua	Green	Tom H
Feb 16	Ch. 6 (pp. 73-86) - Necessary suffering	Richard Rohr via DVD/ Bob Doering	Blue	Bob D
Feb 23	Ch. 7 & 8 (pp. 87-104) - Home and homelessness; Amnesia & the big picture	Jim Clarke	Yellow	Anne H
Mar 1	Ch. 9 & 10 (pp. 105-125) - Second simplicity; a bright sadness	Catherine Collis	Brown	Liz R
Mar 8	Ch. 11 (pp. 127-136) - The Shadowlands	David Richo	Purple	Judith M
Mar 15	Ch. 12 & 13 (pp. 137-160) - New problems; Falling Upward	Harriet Burke	Red	Tom H
Mar 22	Coda (pp. 161-67) <i>Closing Liturgy</i>	Keith Forster / Steering Comm.	All	Anna G