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Sacred Roots: Dr. Davis and the Great Tradition's Contribution to Leadership Development Among the Urban Poor

Danae Passero
Taylor University

Hank Voss
Taylor University, hank_voss@taylor.edu

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Danae Passero
and Dr. Hank Voss



Taylor University

Sacred Roots: Dr. Davis and The Great Tradition's Contribution to Leadership Development among the Urban Poor

WHAT ARE SACRED ROOTS?

“A truth believed by all Christians, in all places, and at all times is that there is one God who exists as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.”

~ *Spiritual Friendship: Learning to be Friends with God and One Another*

SPIRITUAL CLASSICS

BIBLICAL STUDIES	THEOLOGY & ETHICS	CHRISTIAN MINISTRY	GLOBAL MISSION
<p>Praying the Psalms with Augustine and Friends By Augustine and Friends Edited by Carmen Joy Imes Available Now</p>	<p>Becoming a Community of Disciples: Guidelines from Abbot Benedict and Bishop Basil By Benedict and Basil Edited by Greg Peters Available Now</p>	<p>Spiritual Friendship: Learning to be Friends with God and One Another By Aelred and Rievaulx Edited by Hank Voss Available Now</p>	<p>Christian Mission and Poverty: Wisdom from 2,000 Years of Church History By Howard Thurman and Friends Edited by Andrew T. Draper Available Now</p>
<p>Books Jesus Read: Learning from the Apocrypha By Jewish Believers Edited by Robert F. Lay Available Now</p>	<p>Renewal in Christ: Athanasius on the Christian Life By Athanasias Edited by Jeremy Treat Available Spring 2023</p>	<p>First Christian Voices: Learning from the Practices of the Ancient Church By Clement and Friends Edited by Michael T. Cooper Available Spring 2023</p>	<p>Las Casas on Faithful Witness By Las Casas Edited by Robert Romero and Marcos Canales Available Now</p>
<p>Reading the Bible Spiritually By Guigo II and Friends Edited by Greg Peters Available Summer 2023</p>	<p>The Pursuit of God By A. W. Tozer Edited by Glen G. Scorgie Available Fall 2023</p>	<p>Pulpit Spirituality: Jonathan Edwards on Soul Work and Soul Care By Jonathan Edwards Edited by Kyle Strobel and Kenneth Minkema Available Fall 2023</p>	<p>Mission with Prophetic Power: The Journal of John Woolman By John Woolman Edited by Evan Howard Available Summer 2023</p>
<p>Reading the Bible to Meet Jesus By Irenaeus Edited by Gregory S. MaGee Available Fall 2023</p>	<p>Killing Sin: Lessons on Holiness from John Owens and Phoebe Palmer By John Owens and Phoebe Palmer Edited by Daniel Hill Available Summer 2023</p>	<p>The Interior Castle: Teresa of Avila on Prayer By Teresa of Avila Edited by Nancy Reyes Frazier Available Summer 2023</p>	<p>The Autobiography of George Müller By George Müller Edited by Uche Anizor Available Summer 2023</p>



• These six are currently available, with the other ten scheduled for publication later this year



Books by Dr. Davis to encourage and strengthen you in your walk with Christ and ministry

- *Sacred Roots*
- *Church Matters: Retrieving the Great Tradition.*
- *Sacred Roots*

WHAT IS THE GREAT TRADITION?

“The broad outline of Christian belief and practice developed from Scriptures between the time of Christ and the middle of the fifth century.”

~ Robert E. Webber. *The Majestic Tapestry*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1986. p.10.

• Christian leaders are molded by deeper engagement in Scripture, spiritual classics, and friendships.

REMEMBER...

“Remember the days of old; consider the years of many generations; ask your father, and he will show you, your elders, and they will tell you.”
Deuteronomy 32:7 (ESV)

LEVELS OF TRADITION

- 1. Authoritative Tradition:** The Holy Scriptures
- 2. Great Tradition:** Ecumenical Councils and Creeds (Nicene Creed is one of the most important and accepted ones)
- 3. Specific Church Traditions:** Founders of Denominations and Orders

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

- Dr. Don Davis emphasizes the need for both the Authoritative and Great Traditions in urban ministry, as they build the foundation of the Church (Catholic, Orthodox, and Protestant).
- Church Traditions were formulated by Christian leaders as an expansion of these traditions.
- They keep the Church rooted in its core dogma.

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- *Sacred Roots Workshop: Retrieving the Great Tradition In the Contemporary Church*. Foundations for Ministry Series. Wichita, KS: The Urban Ministry Institute, 2012.
- Voss, Hank, Don Davis, Uche Anizor, Greg Peters, May Young, Isaiah Swain, and Ryan Carter. “A Letter to God’s Friends and Fellow Warriors On Why We Read Spiritual Classics Together.” In *Praying the Psalms with Augustine and Friends*, edited by Carmen Joy Imes, 3:211–217. Sacred Roots Spiritual Classics. Wichita, KS: TUMI Press, 2021.