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### Sacred Roots Spiritual Classics: Equipping Bivocational, Under-Resourced Congregational Leaders

Isaiah Swain  
*Taylor University*

Hank Voss  
*Taylor University, [hank\\_voss@taylor.edu](mailto:hank_voss@taylor.edu)*

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# Sacred Roots Spiritual Classics: Equipping Bivocational, Under-Resourced Congregational Leaders

Uche Anizor, Ryan Carter, Greg Peters, Isaiah Swain, Hank Voss, May Young

Taylor University, Biola University



## Background

Since October of 2018, the Sacred Roots Thriving in Ministry Project has been working toward equipping and empowering urban, rural, and incarcerated congregational leaders serving in under-resourced ministry contexts.

The SRTM Project uses the strategy of friendship to accomplish this goal. This one strategy includes three tactics:

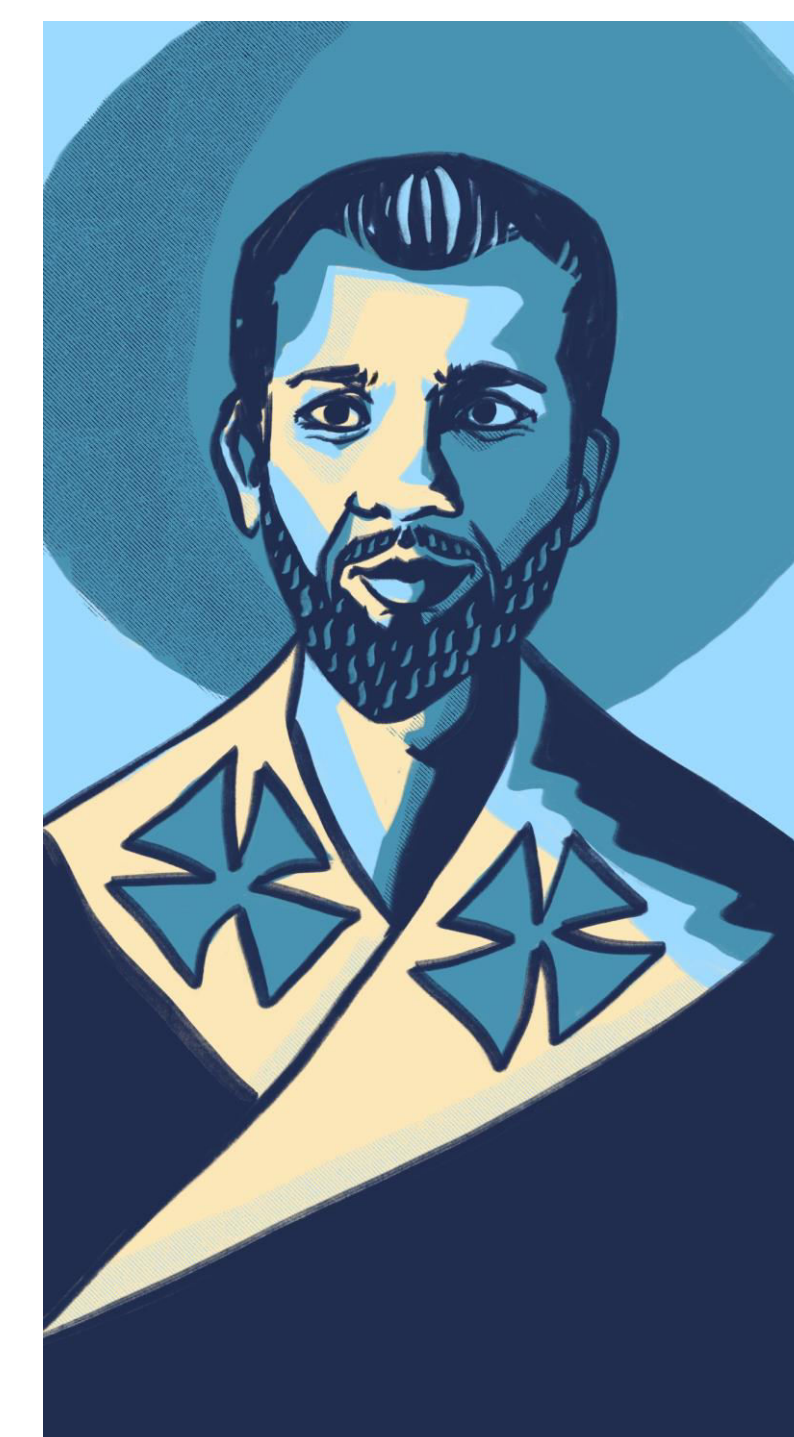
- “Conferences,” which develop friendships between SRTM staff and Mentors.
- “Cohorts,” which develop friendships between Mentors and under-resourced congregational leaders, and between the congregational leaders themselves.
- “Classics,” which develop friendships between congregational leaders and key Christian saints from the Great Tradition.



## Spiritual Classics in the Sacred Roots Spiritual Classics



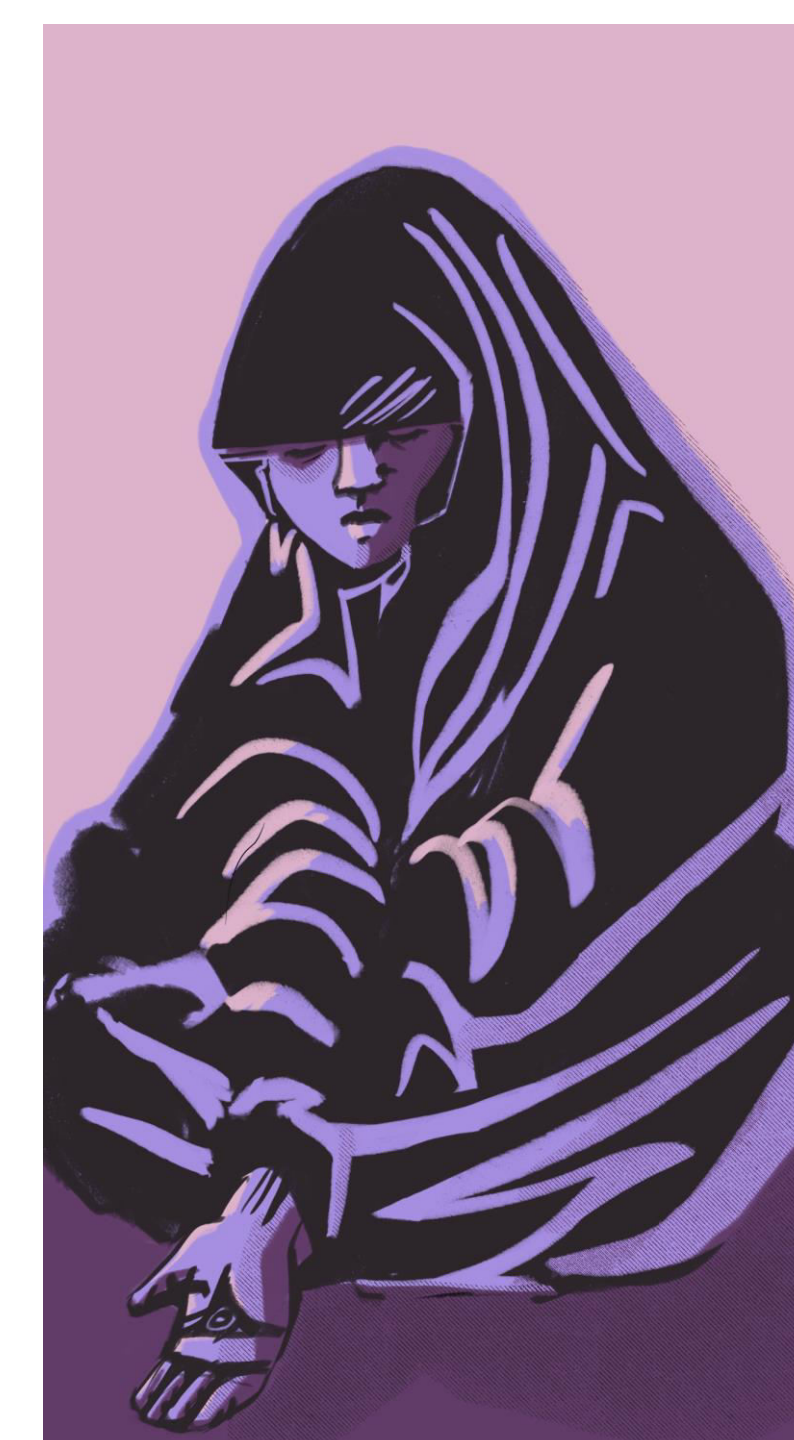
*Praying the Psalms  
with Augustine and Friends*  
Carmen Joy Imes



*Becoming a Community of Disciples:  
Guidelines from Benedict and Basil*  
Greg Peters



*Spiritual Friendship:  
Friendship with God and Others*  
Hank Voss



*Christian Mission and Poverty:  
2,000 Years of Wisdom*  
Andrew T. Draper

*Books Jesus Read:  
Learning from the Apocrypha*  
Robert F. Lay

*Renewal in Christ:  
Athanasius on the Christian Life*  
Jeremy Treat

*The Pursuit of God*  
Glen Scorgie

*Las Casas on Faithful Witness*  
Robert Chao Romero  
Marcos Canales

## Method

At four **Sacred Roots Conferences**, one hundred Mentors will be equipped to use the *Sacred Roots Spiritual Classics* to train other leaders.

Those one hundred Mentors will each lead a **Sacred Roots Cohort** of eight to twelve under-resourced congregational leaders, who will become friends with one another and those in the Great Tradition.

Over the course of four years, at least 1,000 under-resourced congregational leaders will be trained in Biblical Studies, Theology and Ethics, Christian Ministry, and Global Missions by the *Sacred Roots Spiritual Classics*.

## Key Terms

**Great Tradition** – The Great Tradition is the “cloud of witnesses” (Heb 12:1), those Christian of the past who have gone before us, who held to the Nicene beliefs we also hold today. They are our spiritual ancestors who have much to teach us, if we will only listen to them.

**Christian Spiritual Classics** – Christian spiritual classics are non-canonical texts attested to across generations and cultures as useful for the cure of souls. Some examples of Christian spiritual classics are *The Pilgrim’s Progress* by John Bunyan, *Confessions* by Augustine, or *The Imitation of Christ* by Thomas à Kempis.

For updates and information about the SRTM Project, follow us on Facebook at *Sacred Roots* and subscribe to our newsletter by emailing [sacredroots@taylor.edu](mailto:sacredroots@taylor.edu).