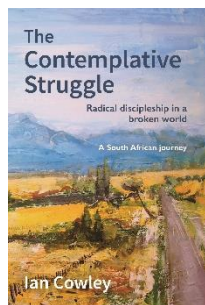


PRESS RELEASE

from The Bible Reading Fellowship



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The Contemplative Struggle Radical discipleship in a broken world A South African journey

Ian Cowley

Pb, ISBN 978 0 85746 982 3, £8.99

Ian Cowley paints a vivid picture of his childhood and student days in South Africa at the height of the apartheid era. Formed by family life on a white-run farm, the rules and deprivations of boarding school from the age of six, the challenges, dangers and dilemmas of student activism and above all his increasingly radical Christian commitment, he looks back on those years and draws lessons which apply universally today. His central theme is the crucial relationship between action and contemplation. 'These are both imperatives of the gospel,' he writes. 'The church in every generation needs leaders and people who are able to creatively hold these two together in their own lives. This is what then becomes the contemplative struggle.'

Praise for *The Contemplative Struggle*

'Here is a much-needed book: the story of the battle against racism, injustice, poverty, held in tension with the necessity of time for contemplation. We need to hear it – there is much here that applies to our world today.' *Esther de Waal, writer and scholar*

'What an incredible book this is!... It is very inspiring and ignited a hope that we can be agents of change in this world.' *Louise Rose, community projects manager, Fresh Hope Ministry, Stamford*

'*The Contemplative Struggle* is a generous gift and a profound challenge... If you're tired of rootless activism and otherworldly spirituality, and you're looking for the common ground where prayer and protest can flourish, you need to read this book.' *Chris Webb, deputy warden of Launde Abbey and author of God-Soaked Life*

About the author

Ian Cowley is an Anglican priest who has served in parish ministry in South Africa, Sheffield, Cambridge and Peterborough. From 2008 to 2016 he was Coordinator of Spirituality and Vocations in the Diocese of Salisbury, where he set up and developed the Contemplative Minister programme. He is the author of five books on spirituality, discipleship and the local church.

For more information, click [here](#).

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