

## **APCE Workshop**

**E514**

### **You Can Write!**

#### **Devotional Writing for Beginners**

**Rev. Nancy Boote**

#### **Primary Resources Used in Presentation:**

Highlights from Words of Hope Devotional Writing Workshop (used with permission)

*The Art of Spiritual Writing: How to Craft Prose That Engages and Inspires Your Readers* by Vinita Hampton Wright

#### **Why Write?**

- Words matter and we have Good News to share!
- Writing connects the head and the heart.
- Writing about the Bible inspires us and others.

#### **What is Spiritual Writing?** (from *The Art of Spiritual Writing*)

- Spiritual writing is true.
- Spiritual writing is courageous.
- Spiritual writing is hopeful.
- Spiritual writing is engaging.

#### **Personal Writing vs. Public Writing**

Personal writing:

- Is for the person doing the writing.
- Doesn't translate well to an audience.
- Helps those close to the event understand it better through storytelling.
- Is usually emotional, passionate, and tunnel visioned.

Public writing:

- Needs time to getstate.
- Shaped for the readers not the writers.
- Takes something concrete and makes it more universal so all readers can relate.

#### **Devotional Writing**

- Is a guide to daily worship that involves reading the Bible and praying.
- Starts with the Word and points back to the Word.

## ***Lectio Divina* – Sacred Reading**

- 4 Movements:
  - Read
  - Reflect
  - Respond
  - Rest

## **Structure of a Devotion**

- Look - something to draw readers in
- Book – Bible is central.
- Took – Application

## **Different Kinds of Applications: SPACEPETS (source – unknown)**

- **S** - sin to confess?
- **P** – promise to claim?
- **A** – attitude to change?
- **C** – command to obey?
- **E** – example to follow?
- **P** – prayer to pray?
- **E** – error to avoid?
- **T** – truth to believe?
- **S** – something to praise God for?

## **Potholes to Avoid:**

- Offering more opinion than thought
- Telling the readers what they “must” feel
- Plagiarizing
- Sharing too many ideas
- Forgetting the most important thing – love
- Avoiding edits

## **ALWAYS KEEP JESUS FIRST**

### **Words of Hope**

If you would like to explore writing for Words of Hope, please contact:

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