

"God outside the Box"

In the summer I noticed Bishop Richard's latest book on sale and thought, "I really ought to read something by my Bishop." I can't say that I was over-enthusiastic as sometimes Bishop Richard's sentences are even more complex than that of St. Paul. However, I was in for a surprise! When I started to dip into the book I found that I could not stop reading.

"God outside the box" is subtitled "Why spiritual people object to Christianity?" and in the book Bishop Richard tackles many of the questions we really do want answered: -

What about Good people who aren't Christians?

Why the cruelty and horror in nature?

Religion keeps people immature!

Christianity bangs on about guilt and sin!

Christianity is just for wimps.

Bishop Richard gave me some new insights into some of these issues in a very helpful and readable way. I took my copy of the book along to the Faith and Fellowship group this week and found it difficult to extract it from some of the members who had started reading and, like me, didn't want to stop. So, we agreed that we would have a go at studying the book in the New Year.

If these issues interest you why not join the group, which is a very open group and welcomes new members. We meet fortnightly and we realise that some people have busy lives so can't come every time. The meetings start at 8pm and we conclude discussion around 9.30pm followed by a drink (and sometimes cake!).

The first meeting of this series will be on Tuesday, 13th January at 8pm at 124 Bath Road (Cecilie Palmer's home). A copy of the book would be helpful but not essential. If you want to know any more have a word with the group's leader, Andy Tilt, or the Vicar.

Janet Chapman

Book Details: "God outside the box" Author: Richard Harries
Published by SPCK Price 11.99 ISBN 0-281-05522-x