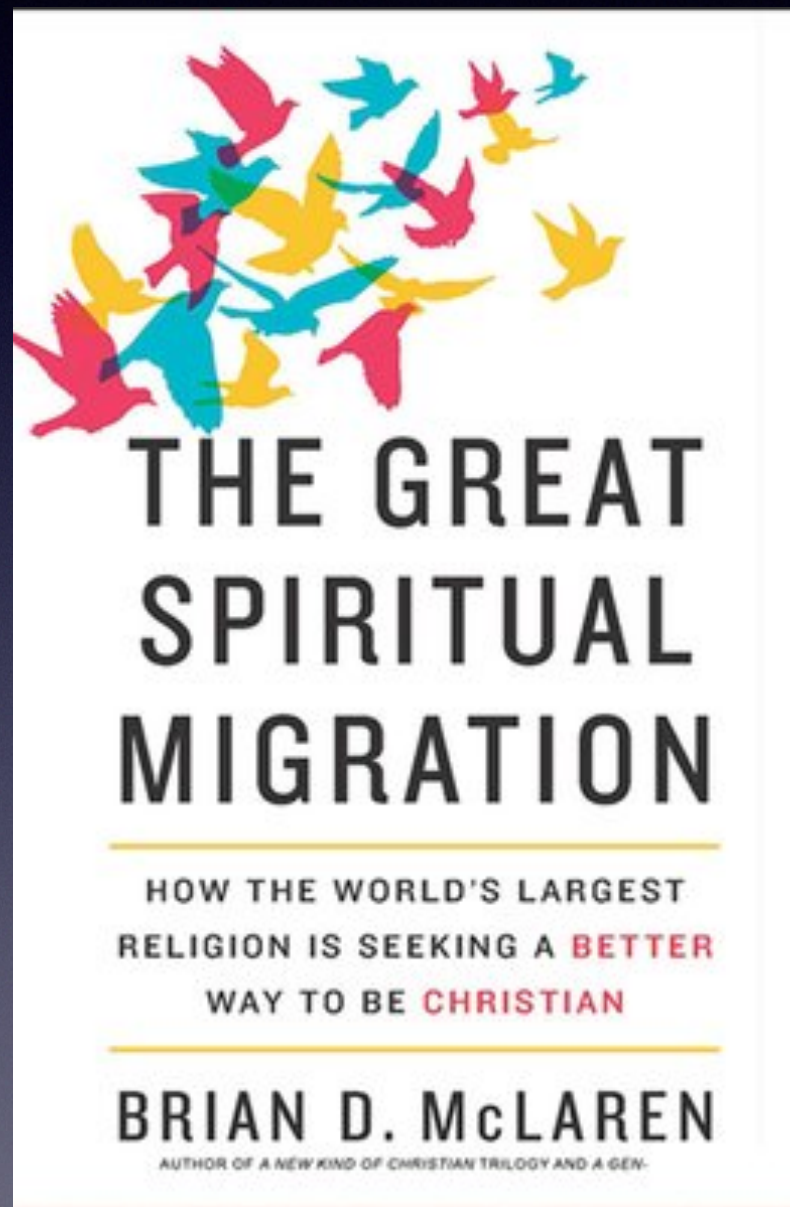


# The Great Spiritual Migration



Holy Manners Bookstudy 42

ACTS  
Winter 2019

St David's United Church  
Calgary





# Opening Meditation





*To me, it underscores  
our responsibility*

## **The Blue Dot - The Insight of Dr Carl Sagan**

3m25s

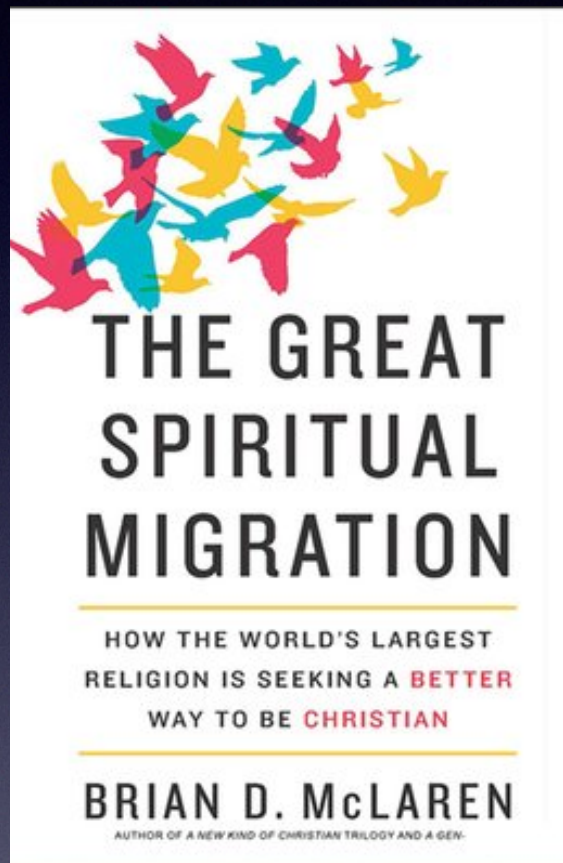


## Session # 9

- Opening
- Welcome & Housekeeping
- Wayne - Apx 1 - Charter for a Just and Generous Humanity
- Discussion Time
- Hospitality Break
- Wayne - Apx 2 - 14 Precepts of Just and Generous Christianity
- Discussion Time
- Closing

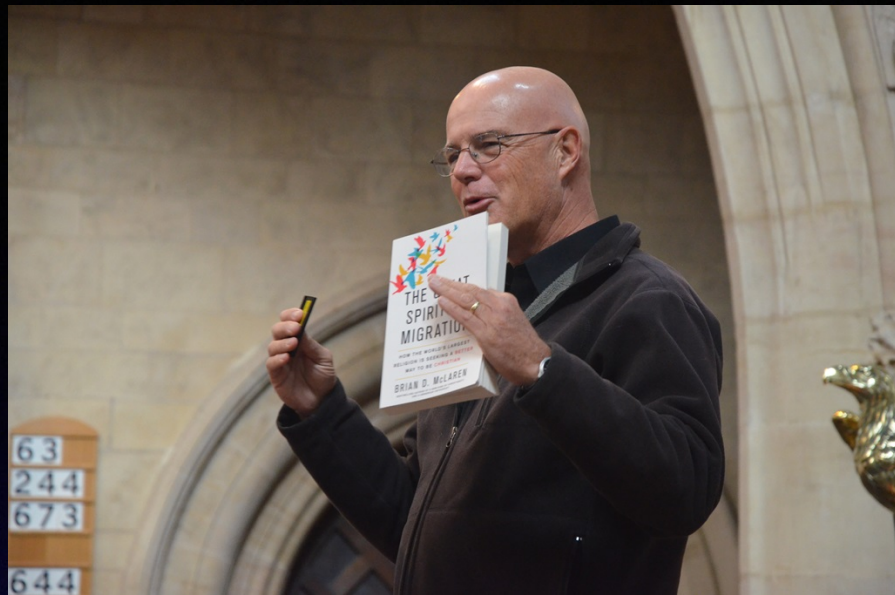


# SESSION # 8



## Welcomes Housekeeping Handouts





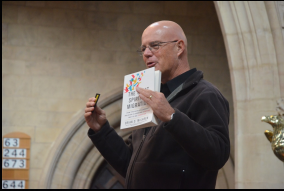
Important to remember:  
Theology grounds our  
understanding,  
Spirituality keeps us focused.

# Tonight

Appendix 1 -  
Charter for a Just and Generous Humanity

Appendix 2 -  
14 Precepts of a Just and Generous  
Christianity





## Apx 1 - Charter for a Just and Generous Christianity

McLaren adapts and proposes the 2013 Mesa Document and the Charter of the Convergence Network, and the Charter of Compassion.

Christian leaders from many traditions are coming to shared convictions that are both radical and exciting:

- not simply be a replication of the past, and
- but vital, new, just and generous Christian faith to emerge.

He goes on to summarize these charters and to propose the sharing of 10,000 vital faith communities.





## **Karen Armstrong - The Charter for Compassion**

3m32s

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DCG4qryy1Dg>





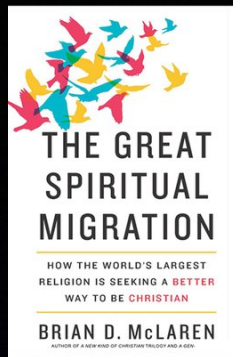
# Charter for **Compassion**

[charterforcompassion.org](http://charterforcompassion.org)

**The Charter for Compassion**

2m10s



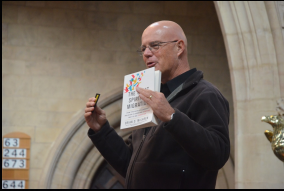


# Discussion

## Charter for a Just and Generous Humanity

**Spiritual Practice**  
**Charter Of Compassion**  
**Young Theological Reflection**  
**Partnerships Across Gaps**  
**Walk Humbly With God**  
**Thirst Jesus Command Of Love**  
**Bible Love Of Neighbour**  
**Hosting Safe Space We Are Not Alone**  
**Justice And Freedom**  
**Common Good**  
**Gods Will Be Done**  
**Engage**  
**Understand**  
**Hope**  
**Hunger**  
**Practical Action**  
**Encountering Others**  
**Question**  
**Poor**





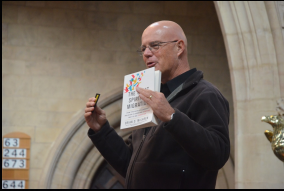
## Apx 1 - Charter for a Just and Generous Christianity

**We are not alone.** Many others resonate with the restlessness we feel, and speak of...

- a deep thirst for a more authentic, honest, and sustaining spiritual life
- a compelling hunger to do justice, to show compassion, to walk humbly with God
- a powerful desire to understand and engage with the critical problems of our world
- a profound need for space to grapple honestly with our questions of theology and practice
- an impatient readiness to move beyond narratives of decline to narratives of hope and empowerment
- a growing loneliness for a sense of shared identity and belonging that transcend institutional affiliation.

Apx 1 - Charter for a Just and Generous Christianity

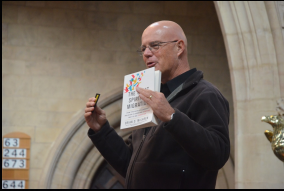




## Apx 1 - Charter for a Just and Generous Christianity

We agree with the [Charter of Compassion](#), that “at the heart of all religious, ethical and spiritual traditions” lies the principle of compassion, which calls us “always to treat all others as we wish to be treated ourselves.” Compassion “impels us to work tirelessly to alleviate the suffering of our fellow creatures, to dethrone ourselves from the centre of our world and put another there, and to honour the inviolable sanctity of every single human being, treating everybody, without exception, with absolute justice, equity and respect.” Compassion “is essential to human relationships and to a fulfilled humanity...[and is] indispensable to the creation of a just economy and a peaceful global community.” This emphasis on compassion, we believe, echoes [Jesus’ one great commandment to love](#).





# Apx 1 - Charter for a Just and Generous Christianity

## The Ten Commitments of the Charter of Compassion:

1. We love Jesus and have confidence in his good news of the reign, commonwealth, or ecosystem of God, and we seek for **God's will to be done** on earth as it is in heaven by making love our highest aim—**love for God and neighbor, for outsider and enemy**, for ourselves and the good earth.
2. We affirm God's preferential option for **the poor and the young** in the **struggle for justice and freedom**...through advocacy, relationships, organizing, and action.
3. We seek to honor, interpret, and apply **the Bible** in fresh and healing ways, aware of the damaging ways the Bible has been used in the past.
4. We seek to reconnect with the earth, to understand the harm human beings are doing to it, and to embody more responsible, regenerative ways of life in and with it.
5. **We seek the common good**, locally and globally, through churches of many diverse forms, contexts, and traditions, and we imagine fresh ways for churches to form Christlike people who join God in the healing of the world.





## Apx 1 - Charter for a Just and Generous Christianity

### The Ten Commitments of the Charter of Compassion:

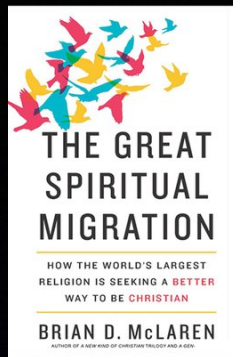
6. We build **inclusive partnerships across gaps** between the powerful and vulnerable—including disparities based on wealth, gender, race and ethnic identity, education, religion, sexuality, age, politics, and physical ability.

7. We propose **new ways of encountering the other** in today's pluralistic world through the creative and nonviolent wisdom of peacemaking, and we collaborate with other religious and secular groups in alliances for the common good.

8. **We host safe space** for constructive theological conversation, rooting our practice in **theological reflection**, and translating our reflection into **practical action**. 9. We value the arts for their unique role in nurturing, challenging, and transforming our humanity.

10. We emphasize **spiritual and relational practices** to strengthen our inner life with God, to build healthy families, and to deepen our relationships with one another.





# Discussion

## Charter for a Just and Generous Humanity

**Spiritual Practice**  
**Hope** **Hunger** **Practical Action** **Encountering Others** **Question** **Walk Humbly With God** **Thirst** **Bible** **Love Of Neighbour** **Hosting Safe Space** **We Are Not Alone** **Justice And Freedom** **Gods Will Be Done**  
**Poor** **Charter Of Compassion** **Young Theological Reflection** **Partnerships Across Gaps** **Engage** **Understand** **Jesus Command Of Love** **Common Good**



BREAK







Time now. Please return.



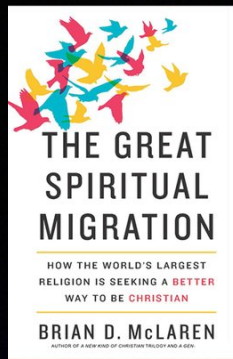


## **Thich Nhat Hanh - Walking Meditation**

5m43s

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QdO1vZJgUu0>



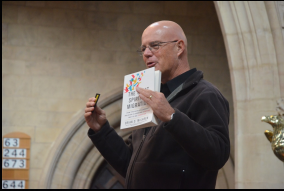


# Discussion

## Precepts of a Just and Generous Christianity

Be Faithful  
Have No Idols  
Turn Your Heart To God  
Promote Peace  
Be Non-Violent  
Be Compassionate  
Share Resources  
Prevent Suffering  
Practice Life Long Learning  
Be One With Creation  
Seek Justice  
Be Humble  
Be Serene  
Weep For Creation  
Do No Harm  
Celebrate Life  
Plant Seeds Of Understanding  
Speak Truth  
Be Open To New Things  
Honour Rights Of Others  
Strive For Change  
Feel The Holy Spirit  
Resolve Conflict  
Don't Criticize





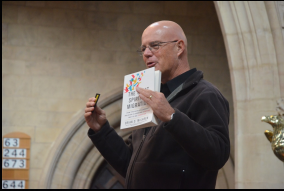
## Apx 2 - 14 Precepts of Just and Generous Christianity

... every religious community has prophetic voices who arise and call for spiritual migration. ... I've taken the "Fourteen Precepts of Engaged Buddhism" of Thich Nhat Hanh and adapted them.

1. **Humility**: Do not be idolatrous about any doctrine, theory, belief, or ideology, even Christian ones. Christian systems of thought or belief are guiding means, a pathway rather than a destination.

2. **Lifelong Learning**: Do not think the knowledge you presently possess is changeless, complete, and absolute truth. Avoid being narrow-minded and bound to present views. **Be open to the Holy Spirit** and practice childlike humility, demonstrating curiosity about others' viewpoints. Truth is found in life and not merely in conceptual knowledge. Be ready to learn throughout your entire life and to observe reality in yourself and in the world at all times.





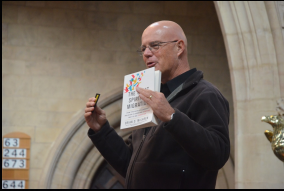
## Apx 2 - 14 Precepts of Just and Generous Christianity

3. Gentleness: **Do not force others**, including children, by any means whatsoever, to adopt your views, whether by authority, threat, money, propaganda, or even education. However, through compassionate dialogue, help others renounce fanaticism and narrow-mindedness, and be ready to gently and humbly share what gives you life whenever it is appropriate.

4. **Compassion**: Do not avoid suffering or close your eyes before suffering. Do not lose awareness of the existence of suffering in the life of the world. Find ways to be with those who are suffering and to be an agent of comfort and healing. Awaken yourself and others to the reality of suffering in the world. And do the same regarding joy, so you can **weep with those who weep** and rejoice with those who rejoice.

5. Generosity: Do not accumulate wealth while millions are hungry. Do not take as the aim of your life fame, profit, wealth, or sensual pleasure. Live simply and **share time, energy, opportunity, and material resources** with those who are in need.





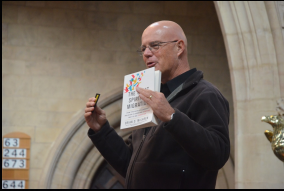
## Apx 2 - 14 Precepts of Just and Generous Christianity

6. Love: Do not maintain anger or hatred. Learn to penetrate and transform them when they are still seeds in your consciousness. As soon as they arise, **turn your heart toward God** in order to see and understand the nature of your hatred, so it will not be translated into word or deed. Make love your highest goal.

7. **Serenity**: Do not lose yourself in dispersion and in your surroundings. Dwell in the presence and peace of God to come back to what is happening in the present moment. Be in touch with what is wondrous, refreshing, and healing both inside and around you. **Plant seeds of joy, peace, and understanding** in yourself in order to facilitate the work of transformation in the depths of your consciousness.

8. **Reconciliation**: Be careful with your words. Do not utter words that can create discord and cause the community to break. Make every effort to reconcile and resolve all conflicts, however small.





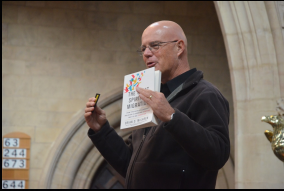
## Apx 2 - 14 Precepts of Just and Generous Christianity

9. Communication: Do not say untruthful things for the sake of personal interest or to impress people. Do not utter words that cause division and hatred. Do not spread news that you do not know to be certain. Do not criticize or condemn things of which you are not sure. Always speak truthfully and constructively. Have the courage to speak out about situations of injustice, even when doing so may threaten your own safety.

10. Justice: Do not use your faith community for personal gain or profit, or politicize it for partisan ends. A faith community, however, should take a clear stand against oppression and injustice and should strive to change unjust and unhealthy situations without being manipulated or controlled by outside forces or interests.

11. Vocation: Do not live with a vocation that is harmful to humans and nature. Do not invest in companies that deprive others of their chance to live. Select a vocation that helps realize your ideal of compassion





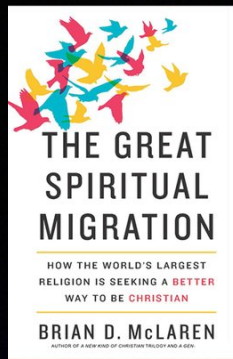
## Apx 2 - 14 Precepts of Just and Generous Christianity

12. **Nonviolence**: Do not kill and do no harm, and do not stand by when others seek to do so. Find creative, just, and nonviolent ways to prevent or end conflicts and to **promote and strengthen peace**.

13. **Property**: Possess nothing that should belong to others. Respect the property of others, but **prevent others from profiting from human suffering** or the suffering of other species on Earth.

14. **Body**: Do not mistreat your body. Learn to treat it with respect. Practice self-control. Sexual expression should not take place without love and corresponding commitment. In sexual relations, be aware of future suffering that may be caused. To preserve the happiness of others, respect the rights and commitments of others. Be fully aware of the responsibility of bringing new lives into the world. Be aware of the ways your body connects you to all creation, and **be grateful for every meal, every heartbeat, and every breath**.





# Discussion

## Precepts of a Just and Generous Christianity

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Speak Truth  
Be Open To New Things  
Honour Rights Of Others  
Strive For Change  
Feel The Holy Spirit  
Resolve Conflict  
Don't Criticize





Closing



# Next Readings

**Session 10- March 18, 2019**

**Assignment** - come prepared to present some new migrational mission suggestions for St. David's - both short and long-term ideas.

Be prepared to suggest YOUR contribution to making this migration happen.

**Study Website Postings**

[sduc.ca](http://sduc.ca)