



## Q & A



### ***The Way of the Spirit*** *Recognizing and Responding to God's Subtle Movements*

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*Jeremy Sims (DMin, Portland Seminary) is professor of spiritual formation at Southeastern University, where he leads the Doctor of Ministry and Master of Arts in Ministerial Leadership programs. He previously served in pastoral ministry for twenty-five years and is the author of Easy As Hard Gets and coauthor with his wife Hannah of What Is Spiritual Direction? Jeremy lives in Lakeland, Florida, with Hannah and their five children.*

## Partner with the Work of the Holy Spirit

### **What motivated you to write *The Way of the Spirit*?**

**Jeremy Sims:** Stanley Hauerwas says, "If we can't say it, we can't see." I wanted to enlarge the vocabulary of the Spirit's work in order to see and partner with this work.

### **What is the central theme of your book and what is distinctive about it?**

**Jeremy:** The central thesis of *The Way of the Spirit* is that spiritual formation requires cultivating attentiveness so we can recognize the often-missed nuances of the Spirit's work. Rather than reducing God's activity to a formula or to the binary of his presence and absence, the book expands our spiritual vocabulary to name the Spirit's many distinct movements across the seasons of life. Drawing on the wisdom of saints such as Mary, Ignatius, Teresa of Avila, John of the Cross, and others, it shows how their lives embody patterns of transformation that guide us in our own journeys. Ultimately, the book proposes that attentiveness, recognition, and faithful response form a rhythm of life by which we continually return, refine, and deepen our partnership with the Spirit.

### **What do you want readers to take away from your book?**

**Jeremy:**

- Attentiveness to the Spirit.
- An expanded vocabulary of the Spirit's work.
- An appreciation of the rich Christian history through the works of the saints in recognizing the Spirit's work.



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