



## YES // Lent and Easter Ideas

First up – my suggested “reads” for Lent (these are for you, the leader):

**“Longing for God”**, Richard Foster & Gayle Beebe (Hodder 2009). A reading of some core texts from the likes of Origen of Alexandria, Augustine of Hippo, Bernard of Clairvaux, Thomas a Kempis etc. These are accompanied with “reflecting and responding” sections to help readers on their spiritual journey.

**“The Crown and the Fire - Meditations on the Cross and the life of the Spirit”**. NT Wright (Eerdmans 1997). The first half of the book explores seven words spoken TO the cross, rather than the traditional seven words from the cross. The second half explores how we might live life in the Spirit and build the Kingdom of God.

**“Free of Charge”**, Miroslav Volf (Zondervan 2006). An incredible book about grace – although written by a professor, this is not an academic book – although it does demand concentration. A book that doesn’t preach forgiveness, but illustrates from the authors own life why it is such a gift.

**“The Vision and the Vow, Rediscovering Life and Grace”**. Pete Greig (Relevant, 2004). A fantastic read, the powerful prayer, penned by Greig made its way around the world . . . and you will see why when you read it. This book, for me, is “The Cost of Discipleship” (Bonhoeffer), for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

## Resources for Living Simply and Making a Difference

[www.generous.org.uk](http://www.generous.org.uk) – the name of the site explains it.

[www.catholicsocialteaching.org.uk](http://www.catholicsocialteaching.org.uk) – this is a quality site for all, not just Catholics, great theology and great practical advice.

[www.christianaid.org.uk/getinvolved/lent-2011/index.aspx](http://www.christianaid.org.uk/getinvolved/lent-2011/index.aspx) - great ideas here for how you can make a difference, if you are on Twitter you can check out some tweeting Bishops and see what they are getting up to . . .

[www.uspg.org.uk/resource.php?id=53](http://www.uspg.org.uk/resource.php?id=53) – Lent 2011 resources from Anglicans in World Mission.

[www.livelent.net](http://www.livelent.net) – Download resources for church and family to help people engage with Lent together.

[www.wearewhatwedo.org](http://www.wearewhatwedo.org) – A load of things on here to help you make a difference . . .

[www.bit.ly/gH7XmZ](http://www.bit.ly/gH7XmZ) - free Easter Teaching Resources from CMS (aimed at 7-11 year olds).

## Easter Videos / Resources . . .

[www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/letscelebrate/stories/easterperformance](http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/letscelebrate/stories/easterperformance) - this is FANTASTIC, sit and watch it with your children . . . !

[www.max7.org/search.aspx?s=easter](http://www.max7.org/search.aspx?s=easter) – loads of free resources for Easter, from videos to craft activities.

“Tales from the Madhouse” (Bible Society) . . . this is absolutely awesome, was released originally on VHS and then brought out on DVD in 2000 – an amazing cast . . . can I locate a copy for our library – no! If you HAVE this knocking around somewhere, dust it off and use it with young people 15+ and adults . . . thought provoking examination of the lives of 8 people that Jesus touched in the run up to his crucifixion.