



Questions:

1. What part can we play in constructing a new Christianity that will be relevant for future generations? How do we create support structures for our faith that will be both flexible and durable?
2. What stood out for you from John 3: 1-10? What does it mean to you when Jesus says that we are required to be born again?
3. What changes if we begin to focus more on the birth of Jesus than on his death? How can birth be an ongoing energy in our own faith journeys?
4. What might happen if we being to focus less on differences in beliefs and more on the commonalities and goals of our practice?
5. What does it mean if God is like Jesus?

EPISODE TITLE: "Christ of the Convergence"

The Great Convergence, Episode 2

Featured Guest: Carol Howard Merritt

Carol Howard Merritt is a writer, conference speaker, and the cohost of God Complex Radio. A minister in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), she formerly served as a pastor of Western Presbyterian Church, an intergenerational congregation in Washington, D.C. Carol's the author of Reframing Hope: Vital Ministry in a New Generation (The Alban Institute, August 2010) and Tribal Church: Ministering to the Missing Generation, (The Alban Institute, September 2007). Carol is also the co-host of the Internet Radio Show, The God Complex, with Bruce Reyes-Chow, and she blogs for the Huffington Post.

Pneuma Divina Scripture: John 3: 1-10

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' ³Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' ⁴Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' ⁵Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." ⁸The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.' ⁹Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' ¹⁰Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?'

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