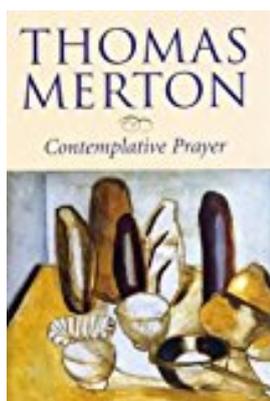


# [PDF] Contemplative Prayer

**Thomas Merton - pdf download free book**

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**Books Details:**

Title: Contemplative Prayer  
Author: Thomas Merton  
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**Description:**

This little gem of a book, newly issued with a foreword from the great Vietnamese Zen teacher Thich Nhat Hanh (who knew Merton in the 1960s) beautifully distills Merton's own reading and long experience with contemplation. Written close to the end of Merton's life, this book is not so much a "how to" guide as it is a kind of contemplation of contemplation. Immersed in the "negative theology" of St. John of the Cross and others--and influenced by his deep reading in Zen--Merton here stresses that in meditation "we should not look for a 'method' or 'system,' but cultivate an 'attitude,' an 'outlook': faith, openness, attention, reverence, expectation, supplication, trust, joy." God is found in the desert of surrender: this means giving up any expectation for a particular message and "waiting on the Word of God in silence," knowing that any answer will be "his silence

itself suddenly, inexplicably revealing itself to him as a word of great power, full of the voice of God."  
--Doug Thorpe --This text refers to an alternate edition.

**Review** [Readers] will find *Contemplative Prayer* valuable. Merton shows that all living theology needs to be rooted in exercises where men somehow happily establish contact with God. *i>* --*New York Times Book Review*

A guide to modern prayer draws on such influences as John of the Cross and Eastern desert monasticism and serves as an argument against drug-induced inner peace. Reissue. --New York Times

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