

Questions for a Person at Mid Life

February 2007

Note: The following questions were formed after spending time with a mid career staff member. The words they used to describe their current life experience are in the center of the paper. Questions to help them reflect upon their experience is at the edge.

True and False Self

Is there a growing tension between your Public Persona and Private Self that creates a sense of being unauthentic, deceptive, or trapped?

Susan Howatch
Glittering Images

Birth and Death

What is dying in you. What must you do to grieve the loss? What is being born in you?

Ronald Rolheiser
The Holy Longing

Dark Night of the Soul-

Is God changing the way he relates to you? Is the experience of dryness an invitation to learn a new way of living and praying?

Thomas Green
When the Well Runs Dry
Gerald May

Archetype Polarities

We all have a committee that lives in our heads. Are some of your committee members feeling overlooked or repressed? Have they decided to go on strike in order to gain attention.

Daniel Levinson
Season's of a Man's Life

The Interior Life

Is your interior life with God too anemic to sustain an external life of ministry?

Evelyn Underhill—
Concerning the Inner Life

Your Current Experience of Life

Hollowness

Trapped by Expectations of accomplishments, age, position, and education

Public Persona

Questioning your stewardship approach to life

Fatigue

Critical of Younger Staff

Wisdom

What kind of a lifestyle do you need to grow into wisdom? How do you avoid becoming a bitter/angry old man and instead become a person of gracious generosity?

Pain and Energy

For the artist, creative energy may come out of pain. Is it part of your call to be internally restless?

Madeline L'Engle
Walking on Water

Life Question

Have you overworked your life question and do you need to consider other approaches to life. Are you being called to a new focus of your energy at this stage?

Enneagram or
Michael Casey
Stranger to the City