



creative and explorative christian activity in the city

## Moot Workshop | Practicing the Presence of God – the use of contemplative approaches to prayer reframed for today

### What is contemplation?

The act or state of contemplating.

Thoughtful observation or study.

Meditation on spiritual matters, especially as a form of devotion.

### Brief history

Inheritance of the early church, from the time of the Desert Fathers

Developed as a form of personal and communal worship out of the monastic tradition.

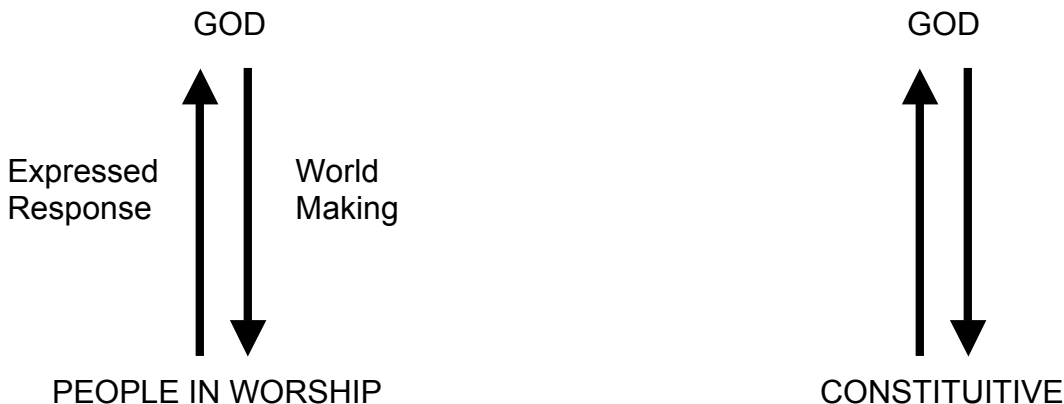
### Faith & Experience

In modernity the emphasis was on faith as a set of principles and statements. In the pre and postmodern context faith is about identity and experience of God, that informs our very being. So that faith shifts from:

Knowing facts about God to:

Knowing God through experience.

### Contemplation as world making



Spiritual encounter, is about knowing God through experience – after all, this is the root of all forms of worship, about interaction with the Divine. This contemplative form of worship is scripturally based:

### 2 Peter 1:1–4

*Symeon Peter, a slave and apostle of Jesus Christ, to those who have received a faith of equal value to ours through the righteousness of our God and saviour Jesus Christ:*

**may grace and peace be yours in abundance through knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. His divine power has bestowed on us everything that makes for life and devotion, through the knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and power.**

