

Opposite to most authors, who go verpufft after their first book, Jn. H. Westerhoff, III, keeps getting better book by book. On this think-sheet is the essence of his latest: p. 164 of INNER GROWTH, OUTER CHANGE: AN EDUCATIONAL GUIDE TO CHURCH RENEWAL (Seabury/79).

## Epilogue: JUDGING FAITHFULNESS

Below are a number of criteria that can be used to evaluate congregational life. Reflect on each one and establish how well they have been met. Use your evaluation both to judge your efforts at reform and renewal and to initiate new efforts toward those ends.

1. Our adults possess a personal knowledge and understanding of God's revelation as found in Scriptures, and they are both disposed and able to interpret its meaning for daily social life.  
*Proof:* Our adults are engaged in reflection on social issues in the light of the Christian faith.  
Our adults are engaged in efforts to reform the life of the church in the world so that it might be responsive and responsible to the Gospel.
2. Our adults are committed to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and are faithfully and responsibly responding to Christ's call to mission and ministry.  
*Proof:* Our adults are meaningfully engaged in acts of both piety and prophetic action.  
Our adults live in the community in ways that demonstrate the transforming power of the Gospel.
3. Our adults are committed to the radical demands of Christian vocation in the world.  
*Proof:* Our adults make their moral decisions and act faithfully and responsibly in their daily individual and corporate lives to the ends that God's will is done and God's community comes.
4. Our adults are committed to the church's corporate mission in the world for justice, liberation, whole community, peace, and the well-being of all persons.  
*Proof:* Our adults are engaged in concrete corporate social actions aimed at the transformation of the world.