

Ten Tips To Help You Understand Ilia Delio's Writings

1. Ilia's theological vision emerges from deep prayer and thinking about the relationship between God and the Universe.
2. Ilia is a Franciscan Sister of Washington, DC steeped in the Franciscan tradition. Ilia holds two doctorates in science and theology.
3. Saint Francis, Saint Bonaventure and Saint Clare are Ilia's long-time mentors. She acknowledges the medieval Scholastic scholars like Augustine and Thomas Aquinas, who are the prevalent scholars of the Church. Ilia writes of the need for the church to evolve given the evolution of science, culture and technology.
4. Ilia is a Teilhardian scholar. Teilhard deChardin, was a Jesuit priest paleontologist and integrated science/religion thinker who died in 1955. He wrote many essays about evolution and moving toward the fulness of God. Two of his well-known books are The Human Phenomenon and The Divine Milieu. Ilia seeks to further his thinking through her writings and promote his works. Teilhard is Ilia's soul friend.
5. Ilia seeks to better integrate modern scientific understandings with religious beliefs, values and practices, especially a wider understanding of creation as evolving toward the fullness of Christ. To understand Ilia is to understand the difference between revolution (which leaves things behind) and evolution, which brings the best of the past forward into a new future.
6. Ilia uses concepts of quantum physics, that deepen our understanding of scientific thought of our time. Words like entanglement, matter, holons and other terms should not cause us to "go down the rabbit hole". As you read more, new understandings and images will come to you.
7. Ilia seeks to help us understand theological concepts like Christogenesis, (the immersion of Christ in all of creation) Cosmotheandric vision, (Cosmos, God and anthropos (human) are fully integrated into all reality) Christophany (the disclosure of Christ to human consciousness) and Omega (point of ultimate emergence of cosmic evolution in God). These concepts add richness to our development of new understandings of God and Christ. Raimon Panikkar and Teilhard deChardin are theologians who she often quotes for new understandings.

8. Ilia's book titles offer a window into the heart of Ilia Delio's writings and help us to be drawn into her thoughts.
 - The Humility of God: A Franciscan Perspective
 - Franciscan Prayer
 - Clare of Assisi: A Heart Full of Love
 - Simply Bonaventure: An Introduction To His Life, Thought and Writings
 - Christ in Evolution
 - Emergent Christ
 - The Unbelievable Wholeness of Being
 - Birth of a Dancing Star (Autobiography)
 - Re-Enchanting the Earth: Why AI Needs Religion
9. Ilia's website, www.christogenesis.org is filled with archives of her blogs, videos and other meaningful resources.
10. Ilia Delio's hope for us is that readers grow into a new understanding of God. While she may speak differently to a long held church teaching that science has opened up and challenges us to think more widely, her vision is to help us to better understand the Christ of the Cosmos.