REIMAGING FAITH FORMATION FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

Topic 6
Curating
Faith Formation

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EMERGING ROLES

Current Roles

- Developing religious content
- Designing programming
- Managing programming
- Teaching/Facilitating programming

Emerging Roles

- *Designing* faith forming environments—*architecture*
- *Designing Digital Platforms* for faith forming content
- *Curating* religious content and experiences

WHAT IS CONTENT CURATION (BETH KANTER)

Content curation is the process of sorting through the vast amounts of content on the web and presenting it in a meaningful and organized way around a specific theme.

- The work involves sifting, sorting, arranging, and publishing information.
- A content curator picks the best content that is important and relevant to share with their community.
- It isn't unlike what a museum curator does to produce an exhibition: They identify the theme, they provide the context, they decide which paintings to hang on the wall, how they should be annotated, and how they should be displayed for the public.

FAITH FORMATION CURATORS

A Faith Formation Curator is a trusted guide who continually finds, groups, organizes, evaluates, and connects the best and most relevant content and experiences on a specific topic to match the needs of a specific audience.

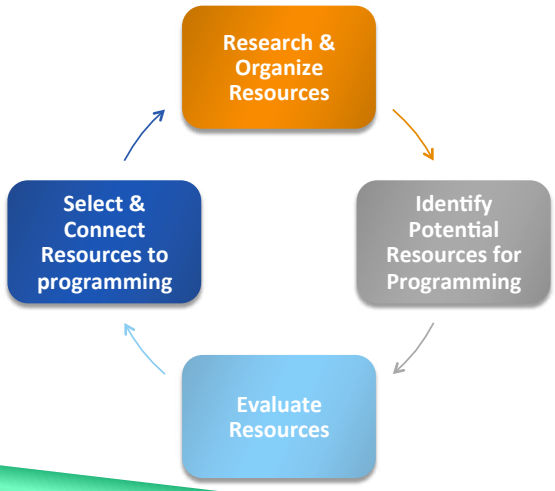
WHY CURATION?

1. The increasing diversity of the religious and spiritual needs and practices of people today require personalized and customized content and experiences
2. An overwhelming abundance of high quality faith formation resources: print, audio, video, programs and activities, apps, e-books, websites, and more
3. The rise of online providers of religious content and experiences—"open repositories" of freely accessible faith formation and learning content hubs

WHY CURATION?

4. There is a growing demand for trusted guidance in finding and selecting quality religious content and experiences. People are looking for trusted guides to help them select quality faith formation experiences and curated learning paths and resources to explore and learn more deeply on a specific topic.
5. The tools are now available for finding and accessing the content, storing it (websites), delivering it to people 24x7x365 (computers, iPhones, iPads, etc.), and communicating & connecting people to the content (Facebook, Twitter, email, text, etc.).

CURATING RELIGIOUS CONTENT



BUILD A CURATION SUPPORT SYSTEM

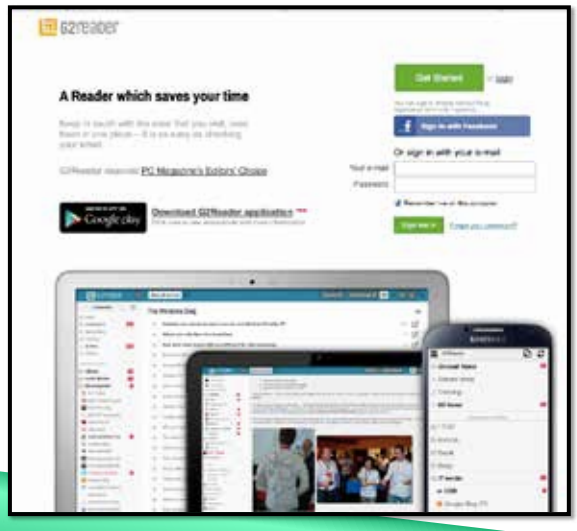
1. Develop trusted expert curators to assist.
2. Develop a list of high quality online resource centers.
3. Subscribe to faith formation blogs and newsletters.

DEVELOPING TRUSTED SOURCES

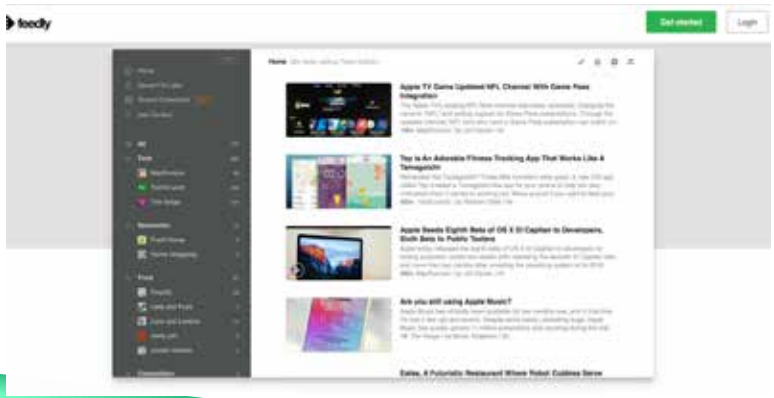
CURATION BLOGS

CURATE WITH READKIT - MAC & IOS

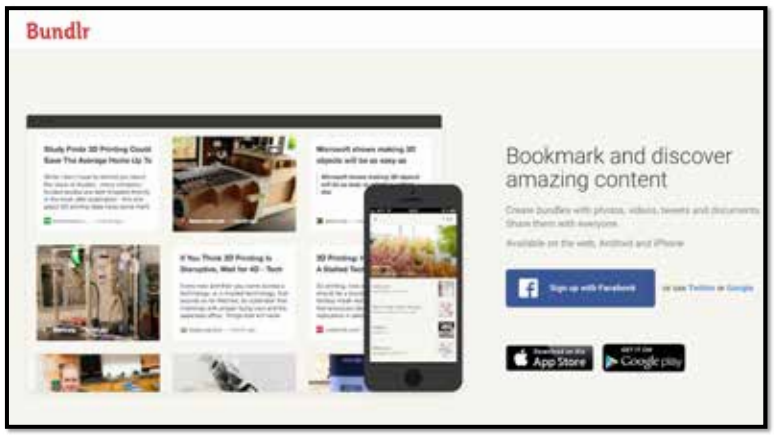
CURATE WITH G2READER - PC & ANDROID



CURATE WITH FEEDLY



CURATE WITH SOCIAL BOOKMARKING

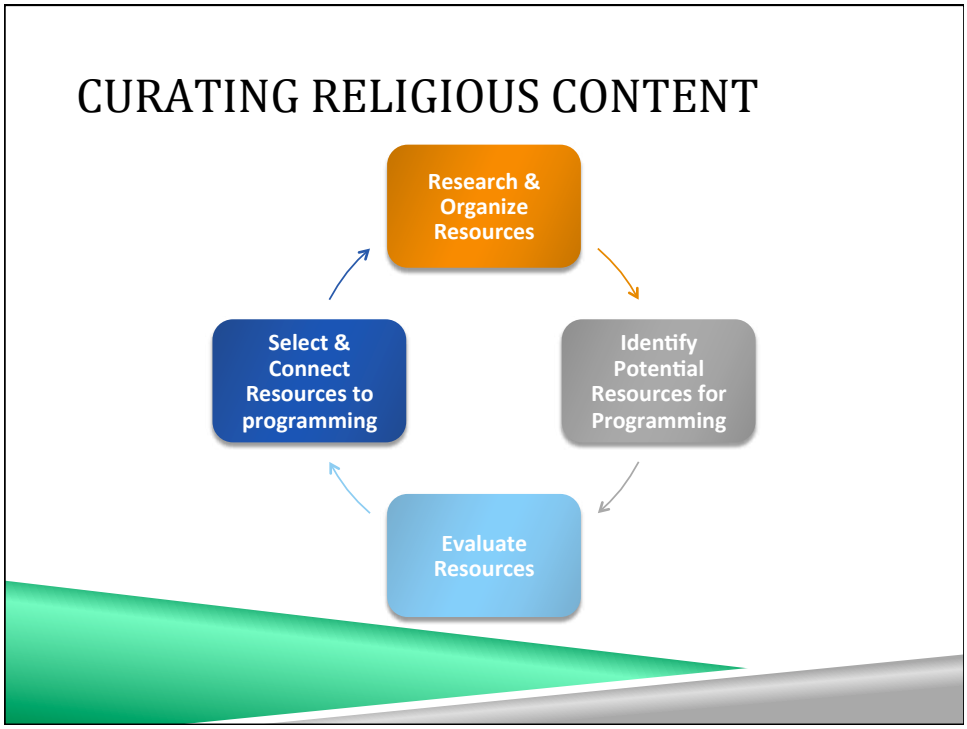


RESEARCH CHECKLIST

1. People: teachers, mentors/guides, guest presenters
2. Community programs: churches, agencies, organizations,
3. Educational institutions: colleges, seminaries
4. Retreat and spiritual life centers, monasteries
5. Denominational programs, events, websites
6. Museums
7. Books (with study guides) & E-books
8. Apps
9. Audio podcasts & audio learning programs
10. Videos & video learning programs
11. Online courses & online activities
12. Television shows
13. Organizational websites
14. Resource center websites

EVALUATION CRITERIA

- ✓ Biblical content and interpretation
- ✓ Theological content and emphasis
- ✓ Developmental appropriateness
- ✓ Ethnic-Cultural appropriateness
- ✓ Inclusive of diversity
- ✓ Respect for diverse ways of learning
- ✓ Appearance and visual appeal
- ✓ Ease-of-Use
- ✓ Quality of Experience
- ✓ Applicable: Able to be incorporated into daily and home life


CURATING RELIGIOUS CONTENT
Research & Organize Resources
Identify Potential Resources for Programming
Evaluate Resources
Select & Connect Resources to programming