

Jewish Spirituality
A Brief Introduction for Christians by Rabbi Lawrence Kushner.
Jewish Lights Publishing 2004

Lawrence Kushner has created a short but valuable book on major Jewish concepts as a learning vehicle for Christians. His choice of topics is excellent and the trademark 'mystical' dimension played up as one would expect. This could also be a valuable source book for rabbis doing inter-faith educational work.

Against the Dying of the Light
A Father's Journey through Loss by Leonard Fein. Jewish Lights
Publishing 2004

Few prospects can be more terrifying for a parent than the death of a child, and few events more devastating. Leonard Fein's powerful and moving book traces his journey from the news of his daughter's collapse to coping with his bereavement after her death. It is a cathartic read, deeply realistic and above all a source of great hope and comfort.

Divorce is a Mitzvah by Rabbi Perry Netter.
Jewish Lights Publishing 2004

In a community with high divorce rates, and mindful of the immense damage that divorce can inflict on couples themselves and their children, this book offers a way of making the experience of marriage breakdown and divorce a little more positive than might otherwise be the case. Rabbi Netter writes powerfully about all the components of a divorce, and the means of ameliorating the pain and mitigating the anger. While it might be fanciful to believe that Jewish men and women in the throes of divorce will rush to read this book it is a valuable tool for coming to terms after the event and a highly useful source book for rabbis called in to be pastors to those going through this most painful of experiences.

Shabbat - The Family Guide to Preparing for and
Celebrating the Sabbath by Dr Ron Wolfson.
Jewish Lights Publishing 2004

This is a marvellous companion volume to Ron Wolfson's previous guides for Pesach and Chanukkah. Containing a wide range of information on every kind of Shabbat-related activity, liturgy and songs for all the rituals, and a variety of personal testimony celebrating the enduring importance of Shabbat and its celebration, this should be a welcome addition to many libraries, rabbinic and lay alike.

Rabbi Dr Charles H Middleburgh