



Institute of World Culture

Thoreau's Discovery of the Sacred in Man and Nature



**Forum: Saturday, September 5th, 2009
4:00 – 6:00 pm**

Concord House, 1407 Chapala St, Santa Barbara

Discussion Leader: Gerry Kiffe

Henry David Thoreau is one of America's most celebrated literary figures. His concept of the sanctity of man and nature is both profound and mysterious. But what is his view of religion? His writings have fundamentally influenced the Indian Independence Movement with Mahatma Gandhi and the Civil Rights Movement with Martin Luther King. His work has provided the spiritual inspiration behind the environmental movement. What is his message and what makes it so powerful? What did he mean when said he was "never as wise as the day he was born"? Why is "heaven under our feet, as well as over our heads"? What is the central message of Thoreau's *Walden*? Come and join a discussion on these topics and others of universal import.

The recommended reading for the forum in *Walden* is the chapter entitled "Reading" and the final chapter, entitled "Conclusion".

For information: (805) 967-1055

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