

Review: Part 1

Meeting as a small group? Use the following symbols as a way to discuss the first half of *Heart's Desire*.



1

Meaning of "Christian"

One of the great heresies of contemporary Christianity is defining a "Christian" as one who believes in God, goes to church, is a good person, and does good things for others. Somehow we forgot the invitation to a transforming friendship.

2

Why is there a 'why'?

Scripture describes our relentless longing—heart's desire—as an invitation to say "Yes" to God's love. And as we respond to God, his Spirit collaborates with our choosing to bring us into an intimate experience of his love.

3

Encounter

Most who claim to be a "born again Christian" never grow beyond the step of inviting Jesus to be their savior. While their lives become filled with religious activity, "the absence of brokenness leading to repentance" is the biggest obstacle to Christian maturity.

4

Emotional poverty

Simple, everyday experiences of mystery, beauty, truth, and belonging lift us from our cultural malaise and awaken our heart's desire for "something more." These are signposts to knowing God, who alone can satisfy that desire.

5

Way of Encounter

"God's love for us continues, hoping to catch us in a willing moment, in the little spaces of our lives between the thousands of thoughts, choices, and words that define our day." In time, we begin to notice these moments, stay with them a little longer, and start to pray into them. And something bigger begins to stir within us, spilling over into the rest of our lives.

6

Invited

A relationship with Jesus is a lived response to a sacred invitation. Unless we make room to listen and respond to this invitation, we can be involved in endless religious activity and yet miss the very reason we were created.

7

Embracing mystery

Unless we risk the possibility of mystery, of a profound love breaking into our hearts, we likely join the legions of the unjazzed in a monochrome, powerless form of religion.

8

Transcendent moments

Having lost our original created perfection, we are left constantly searching for wholeness. Transcendent moments of wonder awaken us from our dullness. And while our taste of beauty, mystery, and belonging is pleasing, we always want more.