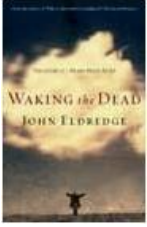


Digging Deeper Question . . .



Waking the Dead: The Glory of a Heart Fully Alive, by John Eldredge

Chapter 7

1. Imagine that Jesus sat down next to you at a party. How would that conversation go? Would it be one-sided? Would you make an excuse and walk away? Would you engage? What do you think He would want to talk about?
2. How does trust fit into your life? Whom do you trust? Are there people you feel you should be able to trust and don't? Why do you think that is?
3. Where and how do our deepest life-shaping convictions form (pp. 112-114)? What are yours and how have they shaped your life and your relationship with God?
4. When you were growing up, did your family sow seeds of doubt and discouragement into your heart, or validation and support? As a result, "what has life taught you about your God-given glory?" (see page 118).
5. Eldredge suggests that the early blows we receive to our hearts are meant to attack our glory and turn it into something we are ashamed of—"And so you can at least begin to discover your glory by looking more closely at what you were shamed for. Look at what's been assaulted, used, abused" (p. 118). As you reflect on those words, what comes to mind as the very things God wants to reclaim in your heart and life to reflect His glory?
6. As you read the section entitled "The Wonderful Counselor" (p. 119), did the Spirit bring to mind any memories from your past that you may have subconsciously blamed yourself for? Did you hear/feel, "none of this was your fault"?
7. "There are two things we need to know, maybe above all else. We need to know that our heart is good, and that our heart matters to God. I've found that for most folks, this is what's been most assaulted; this is what we most doubt. We can't just talk ourselves into this; Jesus must show us. He must take us there, as he did with Peter. So ask him. Ask God to show you that your heart is good, and that you do matter to him" (p. 122). If you have not already done so, make time to do this and then share what you heard from God with someone else who understands this process.
8. Why does Eldredge say that we deeply need others in this whole process of healing our hearts and restoring our glory? (see pp. 124-125).
9. Have you ever had someone try to call out your glory? What was your response?