

TO THE HEART

EMBRACING EACH MOMENT OF LIFE IS TO TAKE EACH MOMENT TO OUR HEART.

THE HEART IS THE DEEPEST SEAT OF THE PERSON. THE HEART REVEALS WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE LOVE. THE HEART IS ALSO THE PLACE OF ENCOUNTER WITH GOD. WE CAN EITHER KEEP GOD DISTANT FROM OUR HEART OR WE CAN GIVE GOD ACCESS TO OUR HEART.

UNTAMED AND UNTAMABLE GOD IS NOT SAFE, BUT HE IS GOOD.

TRUST IS A CHALLENGE FOR ALL OF US. TRUST IN GOD IS A BATTLE THAT EVERY PERSON FACES AT SOME POINT IN THEIR LIVES. OFTEN, WE MIGHT FIND IT EASIER TO TRUST GOD IF HE WERE A "TAME GOD", BUT HE IS NOT. THIS LENT, OUR INVITATION IS TO NOT ONLY TRUST IN GOD'S MERCY, BUT ALSO IN HIS JUSTICE.

GOD IN REAL LIFE

This week, stay with Him in the desert. Trust Him with your heart that's relied on smaller gods, receive the heart of a good, untamable God.

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"Good and upright is the Lord, therefore He shows sinners the way." Psalm 25:8

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. WHAT IS ONE MOVIE OR TV PROGRAM THAT IS NOT INTENTIONALLY RELIGIOUS, BUT THAT HAS RAISED YOUR HEART AND MIND TO GOD? HOW SO?
2. GOD TOLD THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL IN EGYPT, "YOU'RE GOING TO GO TO THE PROMISED LAND, AND YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE THE LAND. BUT I WILL BE WITH YOU." WHAT'S YOUR JOURNEY FOR THIS LENT? WHAT IS HE ASKING OF YOU TO SACRIFICE AND TO DO THESE NEXT 40 DAYS WITH HIM?
3. BUT LIKE ADAM AND EVE, THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL BELIEVED THE LIE THAT YOU CANNOT TRUST AN UNTAMABLE GOD, AND THEY RETURNED TO THEIR OLD GODS. SINCE ASH WEDNESDAY, HAVE YOU GONE BACK TO THE THINGS HE ASKED YOU TO GIVE UP? WHAT DO THOSE THINGS GIVE YOU THAT AN UNTAMABLE GOD COULDN'T? WHAT ARE YOU AFRAID OF LOSING/LACKING?
4. WE CAN FIND OURSELVES AFRAID OF TRUSTING IN HIS MERCY. GOD'S MERCY IS HIS LOVE FOR US WHEN WE NEED IT THE MOST AND WE DESERVE IT THE LEAST. WHAT STRIKES YOU ABOUT THAT? DO YOU FIND IT EASY TO TRUST IN THAT LOVE? DO YOU FIND IT DIFFICULT? WHY IS THAT? PLEASE SHARE.
5. WE NEED TO ALSO TRUST IN HIS JUSTICE, FOR WITHOUT JUSTICE, MERCY IS SIMPLY NOTHING MORE THAN PERMISSIVENESS. WHY DO YOU THINK IT'S NECESSARY FOR HIS HEART TO BE A HEART OF JUSTICE AND MERCY? HOW DOES HIS HEART OF JUSTICE LEAD YOU DEEPER INTO HIS HEART OF MERCY?