

# **THE REST OF THE GOSPEL**

**by Dan Stone  
and Greg Smith**

## **STUDY GUIDE**

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## INTRODUCTION

This study guide is for use with the book, *The Rest of the Gospel: When the Partial Gospel Has Worn You Out*, by Dan Stone and Greg Smith. It is designed for small group use, although it can also be used for individual study. The study guide provides questions for personal reflection and for group discussion based on each of the book's 25 chapters (plus Preface). Thus, a group meeting weekly would be able to complete the book and study guide in six months.

Despite the individualism of western culture, Christ's abundant life was always intended to be experienced in community, not merely individually. This study is designed to help believers in Jesus Christ experience the fullness of Christ together, encouraging and building up each other in the process. It is the hope of the authors that your small group will be a place of mutual openness, trust, prayer, and support, as you seek all that Christ has freely given us.

### WHAT THE STUDY POINTS TO

Both *The Rest of the Gospel* and this study guide point to one thing: Christ in you. This was the heart of Paul's gospel message, that Jesus Christ has Himself taken up residence within believers, to live His life in and through them. When explaining to the Colossians the message God had commissioned Him to preach, Paul cited this one message: Christ in you (Col. 1:27). Paul proclaimed Christ, and Him living in believers, so that he could present every man complete in Him (Col. 1:28). This was the same message he presented in his epistles to the Galatians (2:20), to the Philippians (1:21), to the Romans (6-8), and to the Corinthians (2 Cor. 2,3,4).

The fact that Christ not only died for us, but has come to live within us, is the *rest* of the gospel. This is the mystery which had been hidden, but that God revealed to His saints (Col. 1:24-27). The fact that Christ has come to live His life in and through us enables us to enter God's rest in the here and now by faith, experiencing the fullness of His joy, peace, and life.

### WHAT THE STUDY DOES NOT POINT TO

Neither *The Rest of the Gospel* nor this study guide is intended to point you as a reader and small group participant to a certain theological *system*. Rather, the authors' intention is to point you to Christ living within you. This is the One that Paul proclaimed (Col. 1:28).

Inevitably, a Christian book will make theological statements that some disagree with. For instance, *The Rest of the Gospel* is written with a three-part view of man in mind: body, soul, and spirit. There is debate within the Christian community as to the biblical teaching on man's makeup. The essential truth of Christ in you can be proclaimed with

or without various accompanying views. Do not let matters you may disagree with distract you from the central truth! Our aim is to point to Christ, who lives within you.

## **SUGGESTIONS FOR DOING THE STUDY**

Each week the study group can go through a chapter of the book. The discussion questions should be answered before coming to the group. Please read the whole chapter first, then go over it again, carefully answering the questions as you go. Ask the Lord to open your heart to receive the truth of His Word each time you set out to read the book.

Some of the questions have a definitive answer, which you will find in the text. Most questions do not have a correct or incorrect answer – they are simply put there to stimulate your thinking and discussion when we meet. If you cannot find an answer in the text, don't worry – just answer from your own experience or understanding. And if you cannot answer all the questions – don't worry about that either! The group will be discussing them when it meets.

You will, of course, need a copy of the Bible. You are encouraged to look up the texts the author cites and examine the context of the passage for yourself. Given the frequency with which the author refers to Romans and Galatians, you will find that the NASB or the NKJV are the best to use for this study, since they most accurately translate some key Pauline phrases.

## **SUGGESTIONS FOR COMBINING CHAPTERS**

Going through the book one chapter a week (including the preface) is a 26-week commitment. Some groups prefer to move at a faster pace. Here are some suggestions for natural combinations of chapters if this is the case with your group. The chapters are divided into 12 weeks:

- Preface and Chapters 1 and 2 (all are introductory in a sense: one to Dan's overall perspective, one to Dan's story, and the last to the Line, which is a good framework for understanding much of what Dan says in later chapters)
- Chapters 3 and 4 (4 is an expansion of 3)
- Chapters 5 and 7 (both focus on Christ living in us)
- Chapters 6 and 16 (16 is, in a sense, a specific application of 6)
- Chapters 8, 9, and 10 (all deal with our identity in Christ and its implications)
- Chapters 11 and 15 (both deal with how God causes us to grow)
- Chapters 12 and 22 (12 deals with God's sovereignty; 22 is a personal application of it)

- Chapters 13 and 14 (both deal with living in the fullness of God's grace)
- Chapters 17 and 18 (18 is a specific application of 17)
- Chapters 19 and 20 (two sides of the same coin, in a sense)
- Chapters 23 and 24 (loving others and loving God)
- Chapters 21 and 25 (both deal with moving from outer to inner in our perspective in life)

# DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

## PREFACE

1. What would you say is Dan Stone's main purpose in writing this book?
2. Why do most Christian books run the risk of being man-centered? How is that problem avoided?
3. What is the Father's overarching plan throughout the ages?
4. What does "Christ in you" have to do with this plan?
5. What effect does it have on our lives to know that we exist for God's glory? This being the case, how might God want your life to change?
6. In what sense was the cross God's work on His own behalf? What is the result of Christ's work on the cross?
7. How does God want us to cooperate with Him in that result?

## CHAPTER 1: THE GATES

1. What is the difference between being an external person and being an internal person (p. 16)?
2. Why can we not experience all that God has for us as long as we are holding onto externals?
3. What does it mean for us to, in Dan's words, take off our outer garments and shed an external? What does that look like?
4. Why did Dan choosing to thank God in everything open the door for God's work in his life?
5. What was it about Norman Grubb's message that Dan had never heard before? Why was this different from what he had been previously taught?
6. Tell the group your own story of the "gates." What externals were you holding onto before you came to Christ? What externals were you still holding onto after you came to Christ? What process has God taken you through to lay down some of those externals?
7. What externals are you still holding onto instead of trusting Christ fully as life?
8. What is it that Christ wants to do through you? What does that mean to you?

## CHAPTER 2: THE LINE

1. What is your understanding of Dan's illustration of The Line?
2. What are the major characteristics of "above the line"? Of "below the line?"
3. In what ways is God primarily "above the line?"
4. What is already true about you in the eternal realm?
5. What are the three main reasons it is important for us to understand the two realms (p. 30-31)? How in these three ways it is important for you personally?
6. In what ways is your life primarily being lived "below the line?" Give at least three

examples of ways you see your focus below the line.

7. What is the process God uses to get us to move from below the line to above the line in a given area in our lives? How can you cooperate with Him in that process in the areas you mentioned in question 6?
8. In this chapter Dan mentions many things that are true of us above the line already. Which one was most important to you as you read? Why?

### **CHAPTER 3: DOUBLECROSS, PART ONE: YOU DIED IN CHRIST**

1. Why is Christ dying for us only fifty percent of the gospel? What is the other half?
2. Why is the first half of the gospel insufficient for us to live the Christian life?
3. What happens when we try to live the Christian life on only half of the gospel? Tell the group what that experience has looked like in your journey.
4. What is the difference between sins and sin? Why is the difference critical to our understanding of the gospel?
5. Why does death end our relationship to sin?
6. We know what happened to Christ on the cross. Explain what happened to you on the cross. What significance does that have for you living the Christian life?
7. How is that we died with Christ and yet are still living? How would you explain someone's death with Christ to them?
8. What was the old man? What happened to the old man? What significance does that have for you as a believer?

### **CHAPTER 4: WHAT YOU DIED TO**

1. Why is it difficult to accept the fact that we died with Christ?
2. If we think that we didn't really die with Him, what are we looking to that tells us that? What tells us we have died with Christ? Which is more reliable?
3. What does it mean that you died to sin?
4. Look up Romans 7:22. In your deepest being, do you want to be obedient to God, or do you want to sin?
5. Because of the body side of the cross, what is your true identity now?
6. Why is having died to sin critical to you living the Christian life?
7. What does it mean that you died to the Law?
8. Why is that critical to you living the Christian life?
9. What does it mean that you died to yourself as your point of reference?
10. Why is that critical to you living the Christian life?

### **CHAPTER 5: DOUBLECROSS, PART TWO: CHRIST LIVES IN YOU**

1. How in the Passover did God provide a picture of both the blood and the body side of the cross?
2. Give examples from your life of how, after coming to Christ, you have continued to live in Egypt.
3. How is it that Jesus is all we need to live the life? If that is true, what about the Christian disciplines? What role do they play? How does Jesus being the life affect the way we “do” all things in the Christian life?
4. What does Dan mean when, on page 59, he says that Jesus lives His life “in you, through you, as you”? What does he not mean?
5. Summarize what the Gospel of John says about the process by which Jesus lived His life. What relation does this have to how we are to live our life?
6. What does it mean to see ourselves as our point of origin, or source of life? What does it mean to see Jesus as our Source or point of origin?
7. How does seeing Jesus as our Source work in our lives? Pick something you struggled with this past week, a trial you had. What does seeing Jesus as your Source in that circumstance mean? How does that work out in your life?
8. Of what significance is it to us that the life that Jesus lives, He lives to God (Rom. 6:10)? What does it mean for us living the Christian life?
9. Why is it important to see ourselves as vessels that contain God’s life?
10. Review page 62. How can you cooperate with God in experiencing the reality of Christ as your life?

## **CHAPTER 6: THE SWING**

1. What is the difference between soul and spirit? Why is the difference important to how you live as a Christian?
2. Why has God given you a soul? What is it designed to do? What is it not designed to do?
3. What is a typical example in your life of living out of your fluctuating feelings? What is the usual result? In this example, what would it look like for you to live out of your spirit instead?
4. In what sense are your temporary thoughts and feelings not the deepest you? If you believe they are the deepest you, what will you conclude and how will you likely live?
5. Describe how the Swing helps you better understand your identity in Christ, why the Christian life can be a struggle, and how to live by faith in Christ in you and rest in Him.
6. How are the fluctuations of you soul necessary in God’s training of you (p. 73)?
7. Do you experience self-condemnation because of feelings or thoughts you have? What is an example? What does God say about that (see Romans 8:1, 33-34)?

8. In what way can you relate to the story of Elijah? What did God say to you through the story?

## **CHAPTER 7: ONE SPIRIT**

1. What is the significance to you that you are one spirit with God?
2. What does it mean that you and He remain distinct beings, yet function as one?
3. How might knowing you are one with God affect a tendency toward self-conscious living?
4. If you are the manifestor of God's life, not the source of it, what does that say about how God wants you to live the Christian life? Cite a specific example in your life and show how this truth would apply to it.
5. How do you try to reproduce life through your own effort, like a female without a male? What fruit does it bear? Give a specific example.
6. Think about Dan's story on pp. 82-83 about his union with Christ and his cancer. Is there a parallel situation in your life, a difficult external circumstance? What are you tempted to think about it? What does God say about it?
7. Think about this statement: "You are dead as a point of origin. Christ in you is the point of origin. He will live the life in you as you." What is God saying to you personally about this in your life?
8. What does this chapter imply about how God loves and cherishes you?
9. Read the next to last paragraph of the chapter. How might this be an encouragement to you?

## **CHAPTER 8: ONE NATURE**

1. What is the theological rut that most believers fall into? What negative effect does this rut have on us?
2. How does the Line help us understand our true nature?
3. What is external appearance and experience going to always tell you about your nature? How trustworthy are these indicators?
4. Of all the examples Dan uses from Scripture concerning how we can only have one nature, which one spoke to you the most? Why?
5. Is Dan teaching sinless perfection in this chapter? Why not? What is the essence of what he is saying?

6. Why is it vital to understand that we only have one true nature? What effect might believing you have two natures have on you?

## CHAPTER 9: THE REAL YOU

1. How is Dan using the word *flesh*, or *false self*? Define these terms.
  2. Does flesh always produce things that look bad on the outside? Why or why not?
  3. How is focusing on ourselves, instead of on Christ as our life, flesh-based?
  4. When God looks at you, what does He see? What is His point of reference in looking at you? Is He pulling the wool over His eyes when He looks at you, or is this the way you really are?
  5. What does it mean to stop trying to become who we already are? What does this mean for you personally?
  6. What are some things already true about you as a new creation in Christ? Will these things ever change?
  7. How does knowing our true identity help us understand that there is no condemnation?
  8. How does knowing our true identity enable us to live with a Christ-consciousness instead of a self-consciousness? Why is this important?
  9. In what ways do you still attempt to draw your identity from externals? How is that dangerous to you and others? What is God's solution to that problem?
  10. What does it mean for us to focus on the spirit, instead of primarily the soul?
  11. What is your true identity as a child of God?
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12. What is the prayer Dan suggests regarding your identity at the end of the chapter? Would this prayer be an appropriate one for you to be praying?

## CHAPTER 10: GOD'S PRECIOUS ASSETS

1. How does seeing ourselves as God sees us, above the line, free us to be *usable* assets to God?
2. In what ways are you an asset to God?
3. What are some things about your humanity that God uses as His asset in the world? What does this say about the uniqueness God has given you?
4. Name some ways that God manifested Himself through you this past week.
5. If you were to suddenly disappear, how would certain individuals miss Christ living through you?
6. What is it like for you, as the vessel, to try to become the contents of the vessel? What is that experience like in your life? Give an example from this past week.
7. How has God used your unique background, seemingly good and seemingly bad, to make you into the vessel of His choosing?
8. If you are the vessel and God is the one living through you, who is the pressure on in this Christian life – you or God? In what ways does God want you to take the

pressure off of yourself?

## **CHAPTER 11: REVELATION: GOD'S WAY OF KNOWING**

1. Has God brought you to the place where in your heart you *know* that you can't live the Christian life on your own?
2. In what ways are you still seeking flesh answers to flesh questions (p. 123)? What is the answer to all spirit questions?
3. What are you trying to produce that you are incapable of producing? Or, to put it another way, how are you still trying to live out of your own effort? Are you ready to stop trying and trust God to do it instead?
4. Are you still expecting yourself to succeed at trying to live the Christian life? Does God see you as a failure when you are unable to? What is His perspective on your failures (p. 123)?
5. What is the practical meaning to you of “*know-about* means we must earn; *know* means we understand it's freely given”?
6. What are some things the Spirit of God has revealed to you, things you *know*, that you can't be shaken from?
7. What is the good news in the fact that true knowing comes by revelation of the Spirit, not our analysis?
8. Can you be content with where God has you in His process? How might He want you to trust His timing in your life? What does He want you to stop being anxious about?
9. What are some things God is telling you to believe? Review the three things Dan mentions, beginning at the bottom of p. 129. What is God saying to you about these three things?

## **CHAPTER 12: THE SINGLE EYE**

1. What does it mean for us to see through a situation to God? If God has designed us to see a situation first in the natural realm, how do we cooperate with God in seeing through to His realm in the situation?
2. If God is truly sovereign and we are one with Him, what does that say about how we can look at all we encounter in life?
3. What is a past example of a situation in your life that looked bad in the natural realm but that you see in retrospect how God was working good in and through it?

4. What is a present example of a situation in your life that looks bad in the natural realm? How is God calling you to have a single eye in this situation?
5. Reread the next to last paragraph on page 134. What is the significance to you of the point  
Dan is making about how we receive things?
6. Is there a situation or situations in your life that you have not been willing to thank God in the  
midst of? What is it? Are you willing to thank Him now? What are you thanking Him for?
7. How has God used past hurts in your life to prepare you to identify with others who are  
hurting? Are there are circumstances in your life right now that He may be using that way?  
What are they?

### **CHAPTER 13: THE RULE OF GRACE**

1. Why is it that life can be as difficult after we come to Christ as before we come to Christ? How do we make it more difficult? Give examples from your own life.
2. Why does it sound logical that we should bring the Law along with us in the Christian life? What is the end result of that?
3. When Paul spoke of the Law, what Law was he talking about? How do we know?
4. Why does religion assert that law and grace flow together? Why did Paul say they were mortal enemies?
5. What laws—Mosaic, denominational, or personal—are you still inclined to try to keep through your own strength?
6. Why is a law-based program designed for futility, frustration and failure? How does God use that program in a positive way in our lives? Tell about this process in your life.
7. What does it mean to live by Christ, or the Spirit, instead of the Law?
8. Why do we never escape from the temptation to slip back under the Law? How do we respond to that temptation?
9. What was the main point the young man on page 147 was making? What was the essence of what Dan was trying to tell him?
10. For what can we thank God regarding His use of the Law in our lives?

### **CHAPTER 14: WHO DOES WHAT?**

1. In what ways do you live as if God does a little and you do the rest?
2. On p. 152, Dan quotes Ezekiel 36:26-27. Rewrite those verses in your own words, substituting  
your name in the process. What is the significance of those verses to you?

3. Reread the middle paragraph of p. 153. What does it mean for how you live that nothing has its point of origin with you?
4. Are you still trying to live a life that you were never meant to live (p. 155)? What does that look like in your life?
5. What does it take to move you from self-striving to Jesus living the life through you?
6. How is our willingness for God to live His life through us expressed? What role does reckoning play in this? What is something God wants you to start counting on each moment?
7. Review the quotes at the top of page 162. Ask God what some areas are where He wants to live through you. What must you trust Him for in each case to see that happen?

## **CHAPTER 15: GOD'S PROCESS OF GROWTH**

1. Have you been tempted to believe that Christian growth occurs in only one certain way? How did that look to you?
2. What was the result of trying to put a box around God's process in you?
3. Dan talks about three stages of growth from First John 2:12-14. What did God say to you through this description about God's process of growth?
4. What does it mean to you that "God takes us in love" (p. 168)? What is God saying to you through that statement right now?
5. Think of two or three difficult circumstances in your life right now. Have you accepted that God is working on you to your benefit in each of these, or are you resisting God's work? How does He want you to respond to Him in each circumstance?
6. Is there a contradiction between Christ living in us, as us, and Dan's call to obedience on page 168? Why not?
7. Are there any areas in which God is calling you to be a responder to Him, to be obedient? If you have not yet responded, what has that done to your windowpane?
8. On pages 169 and 170, Dan says that God causes us to grow as He "uses the storms in the soul" to drive us to a place of inner rest. In what areas of your life are you not at rest? How is God telling you to respond to Him in those areas?
9. In what ways is your soul still turned outward, its attention on the body and the world? Is there

an area or two in which you hear the wooing of God back to Him? What would it look like for you to respond to His wooing?

## **CHAPTER 16: SHALL NOT HUNGER**

1. What are some ways that your soul is still hungry?
2. What does it mean that Jesus is your total spirit sufficiency in these areas (from question #1)?
3. What is the implication for your life in saying that you have all of Jesus you'll ever have?
4. What does the statement in Question #3 *not* mean?
5. Are there needs in your life that you think God isn't meeting? What are they?
6. What dangers does doubting God's sufficiency in these areas (Question #5) open you up to?
7. Are there any areas in your life in which you feel desperate at times for an answer? Has God always provided a temporal solution? If not, what might be the reason? What specifically does He want to teach you?
8. In what ways are you inclined to live in the past or future, instead of the present? What effect does this have on you? What does God invite you to do instead?
9. What does it mean that the answer is always a Person? Apply this to some specific problem area in your life. What is God calling you to?

## **CHAPTER 17: THE HOLY BUT**

1. What are some negatives in your life that God wants to use to teach you to exercise faith in a certain area? How does your soul feel about each of these negatives?
2. For each of these negatives, what truth is God asking you to believe?
3. Write out each of these areas as a Holy But sentence (e.g., "I . . ., but God . . .").
4. How do these Holy Buts "allow Christ to respond to situations through you with His life"?
5. Have you tried to escape the external situation in each of these instances? What has been the result?
6. Think of an example when you operated the Holy But in your life. What was the negative? What was God's truth? What internal shift did the Holy But produce in you?

7. Rewrite Galatians 2:20, substituting your name in the verse. Read it out loud. Consider posting it someplace and reading it aloud daily.
8. Is there someone you could partner with to speak aloud God's truth about you? Consider doing it regularly.

## **CHAPTER 18: TEMPTATION: A FAITH OPPORTUNITY**

1. Why are we inclined to confuse temptation with sin?
2. What does Jesus' experience in the garden tell us about temptation in our life?
3. How do you experience your swing being over on the "evil" side? When that happens, according to James 1:13-14, is that temptation or sin?
4. What does it take for temptation to turn into sin?
5. How does the Holy But come into play in this matter of dealing with temptation?
6. How will it affect our ability to handle temptation if soul is the deepest reality to us?
7. Why is temptation a necessary prerequisite for the operation of our faith? How does God want to use temptation in our lives?
8. How can you avoid putting yourself under condemnation for having tempting thoughts and feelings?
9. What does hearing the Spirit within you have to do with living in the freedom of Christ?

## **CHAPTER 19: HEARING GOD**

1. What does it mean to us personally that Jesus said, "My sheep hear My voice?"
2. What does it take for us to live in the reality of that statement?
3. How do we learn to hear God? Where are you in the process? How does God want you to learn to hear Him more?
  
4. What does hearing God have to do with Christ living in us? How has God set up the Christian life to be led by the Spirit?
5. How can we give both the written Word of God and the voice of the Spirit their rightful place in our lives?
6. How do you distinguish between the Spirit's voice and your own thoughts?
7. What role do external results in our lives play in validating whether we heard from God?
8. What are three practical things that Dan mentions concerning hearing God? How might these work out right now in your life?

## **CHAPTER 20: MAKING DECISIONS**

1. Through his own personal story, how does Dan challenge the notion of trying to find “the perfect will of God”?
2. In your own life, how have you thought you missed God’s will, only to find out the route you took was the route He used for His own purposes? Give an example.
3. Look up Romans 11:33. How does the knowledge that God is in everything affect our perspective on making decisions?
4. How does living out of a sense of separation adversely affect our ability to make decisions?
5. How does living out of our union with Christ help us have confidence in making decisions?
6. What is a decision you are facing in which you are living out of a sense of separation, not union? How could that change?
7. What does it mean to “trust Him to live His life spontaneously through us?” How might that look in your life right now?
8. Think about Dan’s illustration of the baby learning to walk. In what sense is this chapter taking a long-term view of Christian growth? What does that mean for you?

## **CHAPTER 21: DETACHED LIVING**

1. In what ways have you tried to make Jesus part of your life pie, instead of Him being the entire pie?
2. When you look at your life, how have you resembled the seed sown among the thorns, letting the worries of the world, the deceitfulness of riches and the desires for other things crowd out God?
3. How are these ways of living (from #2) antithetical to living the reality of Christ in you?
4. Ask God what aspects of your life He says subtract from true life, rather than add to it?
5. How might God be calling you to reorient your life, so that “Christ in you” is a lifestyle, not just another piece of the pie? What in your life, from God’s perspective, may not be necessary?
6. If we truly give ourselves to our passion, what does our life as we currently live it say about what our passion is? How can we make God more our passion?
  
7. How does Dan define detached living (bottom of page 217 and top of page 218)? How did Christ’s life demonstrate detached living?
8. What struck you about what Dan said about the desert fathers?
9. At this point in your walk, how could you press right in on Jesus? What would that look like?

## **CHAPTER 22: THE GIFT OF MISERY**

1. How does God use misery in our lives? Give an example of how God has used misery in your life.
2. How does Genesis 50:20 apply to our lives? Is there a situation in your life right now in which you need 50:20 vision?
3. What does the story of Moses tell you personally about God's use of misery?
4. The story of David?
5. The story of Peter?
6. In what ways are you still seeking a fix for your problems, instead of God Himself?
7. How can you look at a past episode in your life differently as a result of this chapter?
8. How can you look at a present episode differently?
9. What does God want you to trust Him for concerning the topic of this chapter?

### **CHAPTER 23: POURED OUT**

1. What is the difference between God's kind of love and human love?
2. How has God's love come to us? What does this say about how we will live out His love?
3. In what ways does the flesh deceive us into thinking that fulfilling selfish desires will bring us life? What does God say will bring us life? What is God saying to you concerning this truth now?
4. Why is it vital for us to know that Jesus is our need-meeter?
5. How does seeing ourselves as God's asset, not His liability, release us to be poured out for others?
6. How has God individually made you as His vessel, to manifest His life to others in ways different from other believers?
7. How do Dan's comments about operating in your own world affect the way you think about Christ living through you? In what ways have you thought differently before? How did these different views affect your Christian life?
8. As He lives through you, what is Jesus most interested in? What does God have to say to you through this truth now?
9. What does it mean to be expendable for the kingdom? How was Jesus expendable? How does God want you to be expendable?
10. In the sense that Dan uses the word, what does it mean to be an intercessor on someone's behalf? Is there someone Jesus wants to intercede for through you?
11. Reread the last paragraph of the chapter. Why is it so important that we know we are loved?

### **CHAPTER 24: LOVING GOD**

1. What did the story Dan told about his daily experience in South Carolina have to do with loving God?
2. Your life is probably quite different than Dan's was then. Nevertheless, what might God want to say to you through Dan's experience?

3. What does it mean to love God in the way that He loves us? How might that look in your life?
4. What does the fact that God has already poured His love into our hearts (Rom. 5:5) have to do with loving Him back?
5. What role might suffering play in this process of purifying our love for God? How has God used suffering in your life this way already?
6. How would it change our lives if our main objective was simply to love God?
7. Write a summary statement about God, the One who loves. How does keeping the object of our love in constant focus affect our love toward that person? What does that mean for you personally?

## **CHAPTER 25: ENTERING GOD'S REST**

1. Is your life characterized by an inner rest? What does your answer tell you about the degree to which you are trusting Christ as your life?
2. Does being at rest mean that we will cease having any soul fluctuations? Explain.
3. According to Hebrews, what is the key to entering God's rest? What might that look like in your life? Use a specific example from your life this past week in your answer.
4. What is the prerequisite for entering God's rest? Give some examples of how this operates in our lives.
5. What does Dan mean when he says to turn your spiritual eye inward? Is this a self focus or a God focus? Explain.
6. What role does communion with God play in experiencing God's rest?
7. What happens to the externals on the path to God's rest? How is God making this happen in your life now?
8. In what ways are you seeking for God to give you something beyond Himself? In what way is He insufficient for all your needs? What is God saying to you about this right now?
9. What did Barbara mean when she told Dan to only talk about the unseen? What message is there in that for us?