

Welcome His Mystery



“There are three things that amaze me— no, four things that I don’t understand: how an eagle glides through the sky, how a snake slithers on a rock, how a ship navigates the ocean, how a man loves a woman.”

Agur son of Jakeh | Proverbs 30:18-19 (NLT)

Have you noticed? Man has an insatiable desire to understand; to put everything into a box. Consider the universe... with over 300 billion

galaxies, who can imagine the edgeless space beyond the farthest one? Can science explain it? Honestly, though intrigued when I try, I quickly gain a headache. My finite mind cannot grasp the mystery of God's creation. I've discovered that chasing unanswerable questions makes me anxious while welcoming his mystery brings peace.

We're obsessed with putting bounds around God too. Test your thoughts... how are you limiting him? Who can understand Jesus sacrificing his life for a bunch of wretches like us? How can God be so full of love and righteousness at the same time! How can his voice call upon nothing to form the universe... a man? How can something dead be brought back to life? Have you a headache yet? Though we can know some of who God is, he is boundless... a mystery not to be comprehended. I've discovered that trying to fathom the entirety of God creates doubt while welcoming his mystery builds faith.

Reflect: Have I welcomed the mystery of God?

My wife Sue and I joke, "If we only had (fill in the blank), then we would be happy!" We laugh because we've learned that it's not true. Shortly after receiving it, no matter what it is, we fix our sights on what's next.

"The leech has two suckers that cry out, 'More, more!' There are three things that are never satisfied— no, four that never say, 'Enough!': the grave, the barren womb, the thirsty desert, the blazing fire." Agur son of Jakeh (Proverbs 30:15-16)

Add our hunger for more (things, experiences, etc.) to the list!
Unquenchable. I've discovered that pursuing more perpetuates my dissatisfaction yet, welcoming the mystery of allowing myself to hunger yields contentment.

Has God cursed us by instilling us with insatiable desire?

Consider its origin, that hole formed in each of us when Eden was lost. Our home... abundant, beautiful, peace filled, sinless, full of God's intimate presence... vanished! Has God not generously blessed us by filling us with the desire to be there again? Praise the Lord, he's promised to restore it! Just not yet. In the meantime, he challenges us to faithfully welcome his mystery.

Consider: Misdirected desire seeks to eliminate God's lifegiving mystery.

Left untended, desire restlessly awaits the chase making it vulnerable to the enemy's temptation. How quickly he turns something good into an opponent of faith, your Mission. Having enticed it, he directs our desire to remove the mystery of the road ahead (call it the "Adventure of My Life.") We think, "If I knew what was going to happen tomorrow, the next day, and the next... then I could relax." Beware... it's a trap! Unable to control the future, unfulfilled desire creates fear and anxiety.

"So don't worry about these things, saying, 'What will we eat? What will

we drink? What will we wear?' These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers, but your heavenly Father already knows all your needs. Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need." Jesus Christ (Matthew 6:31-33)

Jesus instructs, "Instead, shift your gaze. Faithfully welcome my mystery!"

*Imagine: **Faith leading me into the mystery of the "Adventure of My Life"***

Upon returning from a trip to Maui, a friend told me about his drive on the road to Hana. A challenging course full of endless twists and turns, it's packed with incredible views, waterfalls, and flowers along the way. "I realized that the adventure of the drive is truly exciting! It wasn't a matter of a begrudging slog 'til I reached Hana," he said.

When you faithfully welcome God's mystery, the "Adventure of My Life" opens into a breathtaking journey. Yes, it's full of difficult twists and turns, but intermingled between you'll experience sweet intimate times with the Lord... now these truly satisfy! The thing is, such Intimacy only comes once you...

Welcome His Mystery.

Go off the grid and ask these questions:

Coach's Questions

- How have I been limiting God by trying to define him?
- What is my desire pursuing that is stealing the beauty of God's mystery in my life?
- What keeps me from welcoming God's mystery today?

Spirit Talk

Post this where you will see it regularly.

Live in the Mystery of Jesus.

"Without question, this is the great mystery of our faith: Christ was revealed in a human body and vindicated by the Spirit. He was seen by angels and announced to the nations. He was believed in throughout the world and taken to heaven in glory."

The Apostle Paul | 1 Timothy 3:16 (NLT)



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