**Three Ordinary Voices of God – Chapter Five: The Ultimate Desire (and Epilogue)**

**Guiding scripture:** Psalm 37:4 – *Find your delight in the Lord who will give you your heart’s desire.*

**That Nagging Feeling**

* How is that “nagging feeling” the great equalizer?
* Why are our childhood dreams not as important as the unconsidered dream?

**Your Heart’s Dominant Desire**

* Why is it important to understand the heart’s dominant desire? Why is it not a physical desire?
* Discuss: *Have you ever known someone who refused to take medication they desperately needed?*

**Unanswered Questions**

* Discuss the significance of the story of Pope John Paul II’s visit to Poland.

**This Is How We Change Our Lives**

* How do we reorient ourselves toward God? See Carmelite quote on page 104.
* Share with your group honestly – what was the central object of your attention when you woke this morning? How do you feel about this?

**The Cause of Our Pain**

* List and discuss the three things that will happen if we choose not to place God at the center of our heart’s desires. What is your current experience with this?
* What do you think this means: *we are not here to solve the problems; the problems are here to solve us*?

**The Only Tragedy**

* What are your thoughts on the quotes on pages 106-107? Do they ring true?
* Why are we resistant to holiness?
* What is holiness and how does applying the Holy Moments principle make it achievable?

**The Unavoidable Appointment**

* Consider Seneca the Younger’s quote on death and the wasting of time. Wherever you are in your life, how do you relate to this?
* What is the likelihood that you can commit to meeting with the person you are capable of becoming every day in the depths of prayer? Why is this a vital step?

**Epilogue: Come to the Quiet**

**Fear the Right Things**

* Returning to the beginning of the book with the fear of mis-living our lives, how do you feel about this idea now – is it as scary? Do you feel you can overcome it?

**All the Other Voices**

* We allow ourselves to become confused and distracted by all the other voices in the world. Which voices are hardest for you to ignore?
* Apply the litmus test Matthew describes at the bottom of page 115 to some of the voices in your life. How would our listening change if we held up the voices to those who “live justly, love tenderly, and walk humbly with God”?

Come to the Quiet

* Silence is a healing balm for the modern soul. Going forward from this study, how will you:
  + Come to the quiet
  + Allow God to speak through your needs, talents and desires?
  + Create a plan – even just one thing – that you can speak aloud to your table.

**Thank you for attending this Book Club! If you have ideas for other books and feel a nudge to lead another book club adventure, please reach out to me at jrice@stbrendans.net.**