

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 19TH

The Soul of Desire



"Might not this all take place on the way to getting you ready to do the work - the acts of creating new beauty in the age to come, even as it overlaps with the age that is passing away?"

-Curt Thompson, MD

READ: HEBREWS 10:19-25

What word, image, or phrase sticks out to you from today's passage?

Draw about it or write a response to God using the space below.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

In the final chapter of *The Soul of Desire* Dr Curt Thompson writes, "if we take the biblical narrative seriously, we are to be practicing for heaven every moment of our lives." What are some ways that followers of Jesus might "practice for heaven?"

In closing, Thompson weaves together the themes of vulnerability and confessional community alongside our choice to share things that we have created.

Consider the thought of sharing things you've made and/or confessing your sins or other intimate details of your life to others...

- Do you notice any resistance to either of these things? If so, try to summarize your resistance in a sentence or a few words.
- Or, do you notice an invitation here? If so, what is one actionable item that you could commit to in response to that invitation?

PRACTICE OF THE WEEK:

Confession

Consider concluding each day this week with the following prayer of confession:

Most merciful God, I confess that I have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what I have done, and by what I have left undone. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved my neighbors as myself. I am truly sorry and humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on me and forgive me; that I may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Take note of any specific moments that seem to shimmer from your day as you pray. Were there any specific areas where you may have sinned against God in thought, word, or deed? You might find it helpful to sit in silence and allow the words of the prayer to sink in. Write any words or phrases that come to you, and then use them to write your own prayer of confession.

If you feel comfortable, share this confession to a trusted friend, spiritual director, or someone else who is a safe person for you.

Write anything you notice about this practice below.