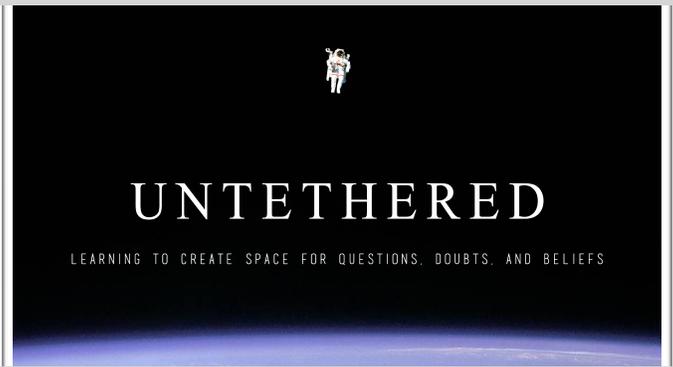


"A WONDERFUL WASTELAND OF FREEDOM"

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Speaker: Danny Clinton



What we've been talking about this entire series hasn't been as much a set of topics as it has been about getting into a specific posture...

The inability to rest within an "Untethered" posture is in a very real way the primary reason the next generation points to for leaving faith all together.

"Searching people want to know it's okay to be in process."

"The opposite of Faith isn't Doubt, it's Certainty."

The biggest things keeping you from a deeper faith are all the things you're certain about.

This "Available and Enlightened" posture makes people uncomfortable, and yet the more I'm around people with great spiritual insight, the more I've come to realize the reason they can 'see' the ways of God so well is often directly tied to the blindness they've come to accept and own about themselves.

Dr. Larry Shelton

Larry's academic background includes a ThD from Fuller Theological Seminary, a ThM from Asbury Theological Seminary, an MDiv from Asbury Theological Seminary, and a BA from Pfeiffer University.

"I'm 100% sure that I will walk into heaven and be shocked by the people there I would have disfellowshipped... my judgement is just too faulty."

"The further I go up the road the more I look back and realize just how often I've been wrong. Thank goodness going to heaven doesn't require me to be right about everything."

So much of what we claim 'to know' isn't revealed to us by our alive and well Holy Spirit, but more often by our often-misunderstood traditions...

Truth: "You know when you've reached an 'Untethered Place' because you can finally accept that you don't know."

As Amos Smith writes... "My core truth about Jesus isn't rooted in mainstream Christian tradition. It's rooted in Jesus' essence. It's about the deep stillness of silent prayer and a theology big enough to give that blessed stillness words."

- This is the most important gift that a spiritually Untethered posture gives you is the "Freedom to reevaluate where the Retethering happens!"

But Retethering can be just as scary as Untethering in the first place.

- To show you how commonly encouraged this Untethering/Retethering process is within the Bible...
- ... Let's look at a commonly told story through that lens...At 40 Years Old Moses is well Tethered... He's established and secure.
- It's here that God begins Moses' Untethering process
- (Vs) Exodus 2:11-15 – Murdered an Egyptian...
- "The place of ones Untethering is often Painful Ground."

At 80 Years old, Moses finds himself Untethered from all he thought he was...

- (Vs) Exodus 3:1-5 – Burning Bush/Holy Ground...
- "The Place of Retethering is often Holy Ground!"
- He arrives back in Egypt a different person than the one who left...
(Vs) Exodus 5:1-2 – "Let my people go!"
- Consider: "Every time you read a call to transform in the Bible, it's truly a call to walk out the process of Untether and Retether."

(Vs) Rom. 12:2 – "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

- Untether from who you thought you were and Retether to who you are supposed to be!

(Vs) Ezekiel 36:26 – "And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh."

- Retether to love with a different heart, so you can see with different eyes...

Moses has now Retethered to His God...

- ... And it's through this Retethering, that God guides an entire nation through their own 'Untether, Retether' process...
- Eventually leading Moses and the 2.4 Million people who are with him out into a 'Wonderful Wasteland of Freedom.'

Side Note: Isn't that almost always the direction God leads people into salvation?

- 'A Wonderful Wasteland of Freedom'

Perhaps it's because... "Embracing the Wonderful Wastelands is the only sure way to find the Great Wonderer who lives out there."

- Each of us is being called out to these places... "To go from the known to the unknown to meet the one who knows us all."

Truth: "You know when you've reached 'A Place of Retethering' because you can finally accept that God knows it all."

(Vs) 2nd Cor. 12:10b - "...For when I am weak, then I am strong."

This is the very same process every person in this room is being offered right now...

- You can stay in bondage to the known... Or embrace the Unknown, discovering the brilliance of both the Untethered and then Retethered Life...

Question: What's keeping you from this place? What are you waiting for?

Quote: "If God can light up a Bug's Butt, Imagine what He can do for you!"

Questions:

- Where in your life do you need to continue the Untethering process?
- What areas in your life should you be thoughtfully Retethering?