

SOMEBODY

“Loneliness: Into the Wild!”

Be known, be heard, be welcomed back.

“Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a desolate place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick.”

- Matthew 14:13-14 (ESV)

“Eternal Ache”

“Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted.”

- Psalm 25:16 (ESV)

Lonely - [yachid] - single, solitary, friendless.

Afflicted - [oni] - poor, needy, weak.

“The troubles of my heart are enlarged; bring me out of my distresses. ¹⁸ Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins. ¹⁹ Consider how many are my foes, and with what violent hatred they hate me. ²⁰ Oh, guard my soul, and deliver me! Let me not be put to shame, for I take refuge in you. ²¹ May integrity and uprightness preserve me, for I wait for you. ²² Redeem Israel, O God, out of all his troubles.”

- Psalm 25:17-22 (ESV)

“The friendship of the LORD is for those who fear him, and he makes known to them his covenant.”

- Psalm 25:14 (ESV)

Relief from the weight of the “Eternal Ache” begins with God’s forgiveness and friendship.

“Somebody Series” / week 1

Pastor Scott Stevens

August 6-7, 2011

The Art of Story - “Into the Wild!”

- Overcoming much conflict or a formidable foe results in a great **drama**.
- Being overcome by conflict or a formidable foe results in a great **tragedy**.
- Care
- Group
- Serve

Recommended Reading for the “Somebody Series”:

- Eugene H. Peterson, *Leap Over a Wall—Earthly Spirituality for Everyday Christians*. San Francisco: Harper Collins, 1997.
- Tremper Longman, *How to Read the Psalms*. Downers Grove: IVP, 1988.

Small Group Questions

1. Currently, is there a setting in your life that contains much drama? (Work, family, school, neighborhood, etc.)
2. Which settings in your life are you truly “known, heard, and welcomed back?”
3. Review the definitions of “yachid” & “oni”. Was there a time in your life you recall feeling “lonely & afflicted?”
4. Read Psalms 25. Do you see the themes of forgiveness and friendship?
 - A. Is there an area of your life that you have resisted seeking God’s forgiveness? How about the forgiveness of someone else?
 - B. Overall; how is your current ‘friendship’ with God? How are the other friendships in your life...plentiful, deep...scarce, shallow?
5. How involved and committed are you in the Church Community?
6. Do you know someone that has retreated deep “into the wild?” How can you help them?