

# Heart to Heart

*Bringing our hearts to Him,  
Receiving His Heart for us!*

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## Hot off the Press!



**Rescued from Hell:**  
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*This is the story that should  
never have happened. Now it is a  
story that must be told!*

Dear,

***Passion. Jesus has it; we need it.***

*Steve*

## The Passion Blocker

***How did we ever get snookered by this one...***

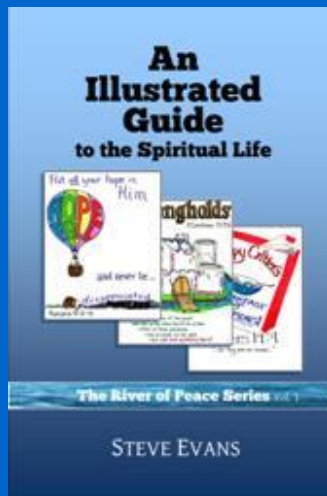
Jesus is simply the ***most amazing*** and ***beautiful Person*** in the universe! How can we not be passionate about Him? Why do we not live ***absorbed and fascinated*** by Him--all day long? There has to be a good answer for this, for this is surely the enemy's number one problem: how do you keep people from seeing the beautiful God and running to Him? What is the enemy's strategy to defeat our natural, nearly automatic, passionate embrace of Him?

**If you are the enemy**, then you have to give the people a counterfeit deity: a god that they will find endlessly fascinating, one who will absorb the majority of their thoughts and concerns. Voila! Self is born! What an ingenious ploy: forget about all those idols of wood and stone. They're history now! They were cumbersome and you couldn't put them in front of people everywhere they went (though smaller pocket size idols were carried about in the ancient world).

**Just put fascination with Self** and Self's desire's into the head and heart of fallen humanity and what have you got? People who spend their days asking of

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themselves: "what do **I** want to do, how do **I** feel about that, what do **I** think is so and so should be doing, what are **my** goals, why should **I** have to put up with this, how can **I** solve this problem, how can **I** get more of this, that or the other..." Sad, isn't it. **Jesus has been eclipsed by Self!** Can you hear in the "I" focus a replica of the enemy's own self-love and self-will being born, recorded for us in the famous passage of Isaiah 14. We, "lovers of Self," are Mini-Me's with a false focus engendered by the wrong spiritual father.

**Take a revised look at all of the above questions:** wouldn't they be much better phrased, "Jesus, what do You want me to do? How do You want me to handle these feelings going off in me? How can I pray for and serve Your purposes for so and so? What are your goals and directions for me? Help me embrace this cross You have allowed. Lead me into Your solution for this problem. Withhold from me anything that doesn't serve Your present purposes..." Yet, in order for our true focus to **shift from Self to Jesus**, we will have to come to a place of complete surrender to His will and His leadership--wanting *only* His will, His way. Until then, Self will remain the go-to deity.

## **The Passion-less Zone**

***Don't make the mistake of stopping here...***

I learn so much working with men struggling to become free of addictions--they experience in titanic conflict what we all experience to a lesser degree. This gives clarity to issues in the Christian life. Here's one: many are so glad to come to Jesus and find freedom from the addiction and a hope of heaven that **they simply camp out in what I call "the Neutral Zone."** This never works!

They fight off all desires to go back to Satan's dominion over them represented by the addiction, but they seem to make no real attempt to go forward into the radically new way of life that Jesus offers them. They have "unplugged" their passionate attachment to the addiction (not necessarily other things of the world) But **they have not reattached their passion to Christ.**

**What a tragic mistake this is** for two reasons: 1) they need a passionate attachment to Christ or they will inevitably drift back into their addiction once they leave

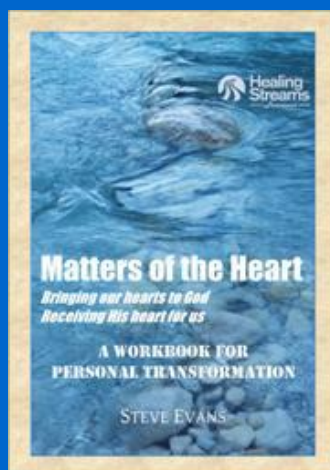


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**Matters of the Heart:A  
Workbook  
for Personal  
Transformation**

us and are no longer coddled and cajoled by us to stay within the boundaries of the program and 2) this is a golden opportunity to begin living in radical abandonment and passionate pursuit of Someone who is far superior to any created thing, Someone who can make them deliriously joyful in a way no substance ever could.

**These are men who have lived for their passion in reckless, radical pursuit of the dream it represented.** They risked their lives, were willing to lose all worldly goods, even the respect of their families and former friends. They risked imprisonment, even death for their "god." ***Just the kind of devotion that Jesus is looking for!*** You would think that they would all eagerly transfer that hard-won previous training in passion-based living and use it in pursuit of the only sure provider of "ecstasy" and fulfillment. But not all do. Even so they show us what radical living can look like-- if you have a god you are totally devoted to pursuing!

By the way their passion is composed of a deep-seated pain that needs mending--an inner angst or emptiness that they desperately want soothed combined with the recognition that at least for the duration of the "high" their substance of choice makes them feel fully alive. I am so happy to say that ***Jesus is my "substance of choice"***: He mends me, fills me and then sends me higher into peace and joy than anything else! Let's go for this!

## **The No Passion Zone**

***Please God, save us from this..***

As described above, there is the "passion-less" or neutral zone that former addicts enter and sometimes remain in as Christians. Unless they reconnect their passion-driven lives to the True Passion (Jesus!), many of them eventually drift back into the addiction. But what about regular believers? Those who know Christ and (thankfully) have never passionately chased after something the devil offers? ***Is it possible to know Jesus and not passionately pursue Him? Sadly, it is.***

It is possible to have enough knowledge of the Lord and respect for His rules that a believer can live within the

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**Holes in the Heart**  
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**A Warrior's Heart**  
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and and abuse and  
won.*

### Resources



**Matters of the Heart**  
170 page Workbook  
24 part CD series  
24 part DVD series  
eBook  
Audio Downloads

boundaries of church and society as a good citizen and a faithful church-goer, but never seem to have their life caught up in the embrace of ***the all-consuming passion to know Him and make Him known.*** Their focus is elsewhere: the all-consuming questions seem to revolve around me, myself and mine (my people, my possessions, my pursuits)--not how can I press in to know Jesus better and follow Him more closely in this present moment.

**This is the realm of Self** and its hallmark is a passionless complacency about Jesus and the things of God. Unlike the person chasing addictions or other obvious sins, these believers are not under the direct leadership of Satan (they are sensibly and mercifully free of chasing sin); neither, however, are they under the direct leadership of Christ. They are instead ruled over by Self--with both Satan and the Lord seeking to draw out their passion in order to win them more fully over to their respective ways. *They live in the "neutral zone" not because they have abandoned an addiction, but because they have not abandoned themselves to Jesus.*

### Why?

I suspect that one compelling reason is the excellent smear campaign that the enemy has waged against the True Image of God, making the Lord seem like the one who will surely spoil your fun if you let Him take charge. Another would certainly have to be what Peter discovered when he suddenly got too close to Jesus: "Lord, depart from me, I'm a sinful man." There is that in us which prefers the neutral zone to getting to close to the Holy One, since that heightens our sense of guilt and shame. One teacher I love and respect, Jack Deere, said at a conference: "The hardest thing for me to believe, is that Jesus really, really wants to be close to me and the hardest thing for me to do is to be close to Him."

I suggest that this is what we are all up against and there is no easy solution. Sometimes grace alone makes the moments of intimacy and ease happen, but I have personally noticed that ***they happen far more frequently when I actively pursue being close to Jesus,*** unveiling my heart in utter honesty and surrender, and pleading the fruitful question: "Lord, not my will but thine be done today. Show me what You want me to do. Help me trust and obey. I am here to follow You!" ***Keep the passion alive by pursuing***

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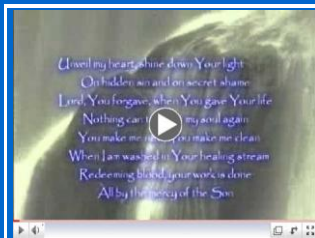
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## Featured Video



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## Him!

## No Passion, No Purpose

***There is a "rest" promised to the people of God..***

**Living in the "neutral zone" comes with a tremendous price tag--a loss of purpose.** Just to review, we have three leadership domains we could pursue: Satan, Jesus or Self. Chasing sin, puts us under the direct leadership of Satan (and his dark kingdom); passionately seeking Jesus puts us under His leadership (characterized by peace, joy and freedom); pursuing neither leaves us in the "neutral zone" under the default leadership of Self (inevitably living stressed up or depressed down).

It seems to me that ***much of humanity tries to play it safe by not being too radical for either Satan or Jesus*** which leaves them (by this way of looking at things) solidly ensconced in a neutral zone between the two passions. The trouble is that in reality there is no neutral zone. As C. S. Lewis observed every square inch of the earth is contested territory: either the Kingdom of God is advancing or the enemy's kingdom is. The contest is most closely engaged over the territory within our hearts each day. So, we really cannot afford to "play it safe" in the neutral zone--not if we want our hearts filling continually with the peace, joy and freedom of God's Kingdom reign. We have to pursue Jesus passionately, as passionately as addicted worldlings pursue their "substance of choice."

If we don't pursue Jesus passionately, we cannot help but lose all sense of purpose and just start drifting through life. And that is because ***our top two purposes have Jesus right in the center.*** Our number one assignment IS our number one purpose: to seek Him, trust Him, love and follow Him with our whole heart, soul, mind and strength. Our secondary purpose cannot fully be accessed apart from Him either for He is the One who reveals to us the unique way He has created us to love our neighbors by serving them with the love and abilities that He supplies.

***Let's purpose to live passionately for Jesus!***

## From We to Thee

***Buy one, get one free!***

**I am happily extending this offer from the last issue into the foreseeable future:**

Order one book directly from us (email us directly to set this up) and we will send you a second one free--if your purpose is to give it away! Email or write to us if you have plans to evangelize using these books and ***we will be glad to get multiple copies to you at half price.***

**Why will these books work so well for evangelism and for helping wounded people find hope?** Because they are "out of the box" in different ways. **An Illustrated Guide** is a full color illustrated devotional guide into a deeper life with Christ. How many of those have you ever come across? People who don't like to do a lot of reading will love this one.

**Rescued from Hell** "hooks" people with a bizarre, "Cuckoo's Nest" true story, then leads through conversion into supernaturally intersected moments on the path of trying to figure out how to live by the Spirit, rather than by a drug blown mind. People who won't pick up a straight-up book of Christian teaching will give this quirky tale a go---and get hooked and drawn in by the Lord in the process!

**The Missing Peace** and **Matters of the Heart** outline the way of recovering from emotional damage and living a vibrant, grace-filled and peace-full life. These are the truths that God used to bring me out of my emotional wreckage and they have been laid out in a sensible, easy to follow progression.

Follow the book links above to see the descriptions on Amazon (but if you want the half price offer don't buy it there) and pray about those "fish" you know ***who just might go for this bait!***

***Steve and Eunice***

## Truths with Traction!

A lifetime of learning has gone into the workbook that forms the basis of what we teach. Steve likes to say that these truths have been field tested! They are "**truths with traction,**" guaranteed to get your emotional life unstuck from those pesky stronghold areas that the enemy loves to bring our walk to a halt with.



All it takes is a small investment your time and treasure to have so many secrets of the heart opened to your understanding. In our seminars it is a constant thrill to see "**the lights go on**" for the students. Now you can have the seminar experience in the comfort of your own home! How can you resist? This is the 170 page 8 1/2" x11" ring-bound booklet that we use in class.

**Our Price:** \$17.50

**Available as a download:** \$3.00

**Healings Streams** is a Christian ministry dedicated to helping people find peace and freedom from troubling issues of the emotional life. Such deep roots often become the source for a host of stress related diseases, psychological disorders and addictions. Even so, our goal for people is not just escape from emotional stress and its consequences, but full entry into true Kingdom living--plunging into the river of Peace that flows all around us from the throne of Grace.

***Let's all jump in!***

Sincerely,

***Steve and Eunice Evans***

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