

May 9th, 2026 Second Saturday Chat Transcript

[Participant] : I am a slow reader, too fast

[Participant] : good morning from Milwaukee overlooking Lake Michigan.

[Participant] : Good morning from Tucson overlooking desert beauty.

[Participant] : Allenspark CO,. Melting out from 2 feet of snow, yeah! What a blessing!

[Participant] : hello from Montana

[Participant] : Good morning. Posted with permission from Marianne. Ed Wales is facilitating a virtual book study, June 11- July 30, 6:30- 8:00 p.m. Pacific Time. No session on July 2. Gospel Vulnerability – The Key to Costly Love shows the way to live life modeled after Jesus’ life. It explores practical spiritual stretching activities to live a courageous life in service to others through self-giving love, that transcends “I will pray for you”. The book is divided into seven parts with each part about 15 pages long. If following Jesus is your goal, this book will put you on the right path to create the “Land of the Rightside Up” (Mary Sharon Moore, Author). Gospel Vulnerability | Franciscan Spiritual edgar.wales@gmail.com

[Participant] : Greetings from Laurens, SC

[Participant] : "Whoever Tells the Best Story Wins" by Annette Simmons, how to use your own stories to communicate with power and impact , 2007 AMACOM , New York.

[Participant] : Read "The willing Damned" over the last two days (Westar), set of essays. Dense but fascinating. My email is stephens.braun@gmail.com

[Participant] : What to Believe is great, but should be read and reread.

[Participant] : I hope that the recording of the Resurrection reprise will work because I will be out of town away from my computer for the 2d Saturday in June.

[Participant] : Is the absolutizing of certainty the product of Greek thought in early Christianity?

[Participant] : My Tuesday morning Zoom group, Exploring Spirituality, is discussing "Humanly Possible" by Sarah Bakewell; Next up may be The Willing Damned or Tough Enough or The Life of Pi. email me to join setphens.braun@gmail.com

[Participant] : From King Lear.

[Participant] : Don't be a fish out of water!

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[Participant] : Experiential: feeling before knowing. Sometimes for me the knowing and trying to understand it moves me out the feeling and then it's gone.

[Participant] : A friend asked me why I pray/meditate. The response leapt from my lips, "For the pleasure of the Company."

[Participant] : God as in the "god would be the ocean and not the biggest fish."

[Participant] : My father is Buddhist. When we talked about God when I was a small child he said that to talk about God, to try to describe God is to put God in a box, it's to limit God.

[Participant] : God's first language is silence.

[Participant] : From James McBride's book. What color is God? The character answered God is the color of water.

[Participant] : People experience the room differently and none of them would be wrong.

[Participant] : Becky, thank you for your struggle, I also feel your pain and the cruelty.

[Participant] : "Professor, I hear you are supposed to be deeply religious"? Calmly and with great dignity, Einstein replied, "Yes, you can call it that . Try and penetrate with our limited means the secrets of nature and you will find that, behind all the discernable concatenations, there remains something subtle, intangible and inexplicable. Veneration for this force beyond anything that we can comprehend is my religion. To that extent I am, in point of fact, religious"

[Participant] : Is there a way to save the chat?

[Participant] : There are 3 dots at the top of the chat, click there to get "save chat"

[Participant] : Certainty helps with decision fatigue. When I'm certain about something that one less decision I have to make. Not advocating for this in the case of Christianity, but it could be something at work here.

[Participant] : Or a movie I've loved that is woefully out of step, even awful given what I know now, e.g., Sixteen Candles by John Hughes (Gen Xer here.)

[Participant] : Back in January 2025 Second Saturday I learned about the book Ancient Christianities: The First Five Hundred Years, Paula Fredriksen. It is worth mentioning again. I am "enthralled" by it, also.

[Participant] : That Marvin Gaye Album was my favorite music as I was graduating HS! He was saying so much!! Listening always made me weep...His lyrics spoke to me deeply...even at 18 yrs old! Thanks, Marieanne!

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[Participant] : I was going to mention Marvin Gaye's song. There is another that relates to today's theme. 4 Non Blondes song What's Up?

[Participant] : From one of my favorite songs: Try to Remember, and if you remember, then follow.

[Participant] : Trauma recovery

[Participant] : Thank you so much, Kjell.

[Participant] : 4 Non Blondes. What's Up

[Participant] : Jackie, just saw a post about this idea of honoring a child's feelings. Being visible

[Participant] : Jackie, I think you have the kernel of an important, much-needed children's book here !

[Participant] : "Contact". "They should have sent a poet"

[Participant] : Thanksgiving Address listed above - very helpful

[Participant] : Potential Sermon title... "The problem with God"

[Participant] : Putting God in a box means you have no more questions to ask which is the first step to a spiritual life.

[Participant] : Wonderful gathering today, Marianne. Peace

[Participant] : First tip to the death of a spiritual life is what I meant.