

A WEARY WORLD: Week One

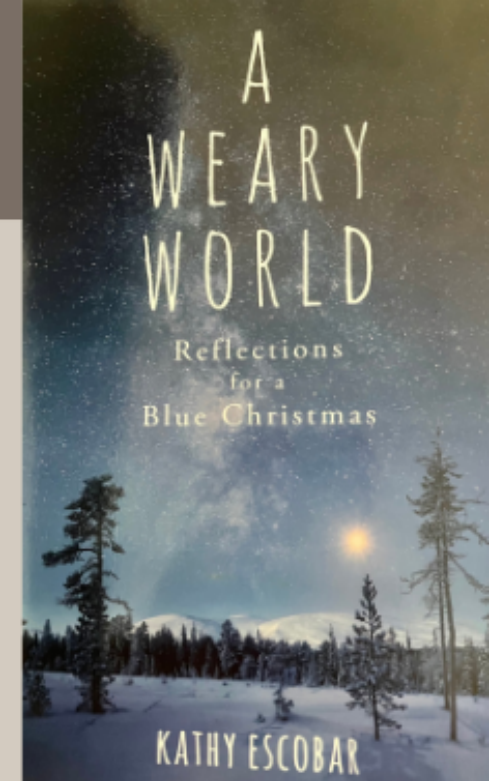
SUNDAY & MONDAY

Sunday: Honoring Reality.

Author Kathy Escobar talks about how we need to be ok with being "raw and real". Even when talking about their struggles, a person often combines the statement with a "but". "I am feeling down about not seeing my family BUT I will be ok." You don't need that addition. It is ok to let others know you could use support. She also describes how everyone is in a different place with God. When she lost her son, the Christmas Story and belief of God's comfort wasn't the answer right away. She is a pastor and felt that way. Don't be ashamed if that is your current reality. Just like we stress in GIYC, it is important to own your story and know you aren't alone.

Monday: The Real Christmas Story.

The quote on the right describes the true reality of the Christmas story. We often imagine the beautiful manger scene portrayed in so many churches and feel guilt when our holiday season isn't perfect like it is "supposed" to be. We are all living through a pandemic with other circumstances many don't know about and that is OK! Think about the true chaos Jesus lived through in the holiday season and find comfort in that. Stop adding extra stress by trying to make everything perfect, refer back to the importance of honoring reality.



"The real Christmas story isn't clean neat or tidy. It's a crazy, wild story. God choosing to reveal himself in a human baby born to unwed parents in a dirty stall filled with animals and chaos."