Frequently Asked Questions

What Does It Costs?
Other than confirming your participation and get your butt to Telluride, there is not much more you need to do. Accommodations have been taken care of and most of the meals will be prepared by the participants. **I am asking each participant to consider a donation up to $200 to assist with groceries, but this is NOT a requirement. It just helps me to expand the number of participants.**

How Much money should I budget?

Most of the activities are outdoor in nature and therefore free. The one exception is the bike ride, which you budget $45 - $50 for a daily rental. Most of the meals are group meals, except for the lunch after the bike ride. Tack on another $50 for those and then add whatever amount of spending money that you have interest in. There is also a Farmer’s Market on Friday that has crafts and gifts in addition to food.

I see a lot of physical activity involved. How good of shape do I need to be in?

There is no doubt that much of the chosen activities will be taxing (both physically and mentally in some cases). We will be at 9,000 – 11,000 of elevation for some of these activities and walking up a flight of stairs will make you breathless at first. The activities are broken up into Advance, Intermediate and Opt Out levels. The average middle age person should be able to the Intermediate levels. We have a guy that had a heart transplant that completed the Intermediate hike up Bear Creek, which will be the most strenuous of all of the activities. If you are in reasonably good shape, then you want to “stretch” and consider the Advance options. Others, for various health and fitness reasons, may elect to Opt Out. That’s okay, this is not a boot camp or contest.

What if I haven’t read the other books covered in past retreats, should I read them prior to coming to the retreat?

Not a prerequisite, but excellent reading. In prior retreats, we studied: Wild at Heart and The Way of the Wild Heart both by John Eldredge, as well as Love Does by Bob Goff. If you haven’t read Wild at Heart, I would strongly suggest that you do for it has the ability to awaken the hearts of men. Bob’s book is an easy, hilarious read that can almost be tackled in a couple long airplane rides. As previously stated, these are all excellent books that I would encourage you to read, but are not a necessary prerequisite for participating in this year’s retreat.

I see that’s there are small groups. Can you tell me more about how that generally works?
We will all pile up in my living room and watch the Video/DVD series as a large community group. After each video, there are a series of questions to discuss and recommended action steps to consider. As previously mentioned, the Study Series that we are tackling is meant to be covered over a 4 week period, but we are blazing through it over a period of 4 days. That is why it is imperative that you read the book as a “self-study” over a period of 16-20 weeks and record your answers to the questions at the back of the book in a journal. Each chapter also suggest a recommended action for you to consider. If you do this, then you will be prepared to discuss the questions in the small groups as this will be just an “open discussion” about what you discovered as you read the book.

Wow, this sounds awesome. How can I help?

If you have an interest in facilitating, cleaning up, cooking, etc. there will be plenty of opportunities. As the date draws near, you will be given assignments to help prep, cook, load up, unload, and clean up. If you have a particular gift or desire, please let me know in advance.

Can you tell me more about the sleeping arrangements?

You will find a brief description of the homes where we will be staying in the following pages. These are very nice vacation rentals, not your typical ranch house or dorm. Everyone will have their own bed and many of you may have to share a bedroom with others. In the case where we get overbooked, your bed may be a couch, sleeper sofa or air mattress. Early booking helps to assure that you will be sleeping is a bed as house assignments and beds are assigned on a first come, first serve basis. We will likely split up groups as much as we can with the idea of helping everyone to get to know everyone.

Ok, I get that I pay for my own airfare and that there are various airports that I might explore. How do I get to Telluride?

Re-read page 6. We will rent a van and a number of folks may elect to rent a car. So there will likely be opportunities to catch a ride with folks and split the cost of the rental/gas. There is also a shuttle service (Telluride Express 888-212-8294).

I am in! How Do I confirm my attendance?

Book your travel and let me know. Once you have booked your travel, you now have “skin in the game”. This allows me to book another home.