

Blue Like Jazz by Donald Miller - Nonreligious thoughts on Christian spirituality

Discussion

For our discussion today, we are going to read each of the sections of the chapter individually, talking about each as we go. To get started, read the first section that ends on page 30. A set of dots will mark the end of each section.

Read pages 26-30

- At the end of the section, the author says, “the message, however, was appealing to me. God said he would make me new. I can’t pretend for a second I didn’t want to be made new, that I didn’t want to start again. I did.” How have you experienced a sense of newness since being in college? What are ways college is allowing you to be made new?
- Ok, lets make it a little more intimate, what’s an area of your character that you would like made new?

Read 30-31

- What is the problem the author is getting at in this section?

Read 31-33

- What was the author coming to understand about story and our lives?
- Ok, well lets consider our own story. First, what is your setting?
- Now, how about conflict. What are ways you experience conflict?
- In this section we see the author stating the main thesis of the chapter. It’s related to conflict but more specifically the main thesis relates to climax. What is he arguing here?

Read 33-35

- What’s the author getting at in regards to story and our lives in this section?
- What is the decision the author is suggesting we have to make?

Apply

- How do you identify with being in need of rescue from yourself and the world around you?
- How does this decision line up with your previous understanding of Christian spirituality? What lines up? What is different?
- If Jesus is here to rescue us, how willing would you be to let him? Why?