The Tears of Things: Prophetic Wisdom for an Age of Outrage By Richard Rohr

Book Discussion at Precious Blood Renewal Center, Liberty, Missouri. June 17 to Aug. 5, 2025

Discussion Questions for the Introduction and Chapter 1

Introduction

- 1. Who is a present-day prophet calling for "Holy Disorder?"
- 2. How does one call for transformation from within the religion or system that is in need of transformation?
- 3. What are the risks involved in acknowledging cultural sin or collective evil?

Learning to Love as God Loves

- 1. Why is it so difficult to trust in God's love for us, rather than trusting in our own abilities, power, and control?
- 2. Is it clear to you how scapegoating is a result of uncertainty of God's love for us?

Ch. 1 The Tears of Things

- 1. How do tears (sadness, grief) help move us out of ourselves and our ego-centricity?
- 2. Why is it easier to go quickly to anger than stay with the sadness for awhile?
- 3. How have you had to "forgive reality?"

Reading the Prophetic Journey

- 1. How is the prophet's beginning anger and judgment at the world a kind of hard-heartedness, with a "heart of stone?"
- 2. What is it that enables true prophets to move to a "new heart," a "heart of flesh?"

A Method for Reading the Prophets

1. Rohr describes the prophet's necessary journey from order, to disorder, to reorder. Have you experienced this journey in your life?

