



# THE NOBLE HEART™

A Few Lessons Learned  
December 17, 2008 eLetter

Dear friends,

Something took me by surprise last Friday. I received an e-mail from the Development/Acquisitions Editor from David C. Cook publishers informing me that they would like to publish the book on calling that I have been working on for years. It was about twelve years ago when God first spoke to me about writing all that I have been studying, observing and offering in terms of a person's calling.

## **Fear is greatest in the vicinity of our desires:**

In those twelve years the fulfillment of God's word about writing a book was delayed by my procrastination. Fearful that I could not write, and not wanting to prove my fear true, I simply "could not find the time" to start. The truth is that this was something I didn't want to fail at. It meant too much to me so it was safer to never begin.

## **Perseverance is always needed in the direction of our destiny:**

Then, five years ago, I finally fought through my fear and started writing. It was as hard as I imagined it would be, but I pushed through and wrote 4 chapters. Then I hit the next fear barrier – sending my writing to a book agent for his evaluation. And that was also as painful as I feared it could be. The book agent said, "you are not a writer...this is terrible...it's not worth your time trying to rewrite these chapters." So I walked away from writing from that day until now.

## **There is always more we must learn and become:**

In between that episode and last Friday's e-mail, another book agent sent the chapters I had written to a publisher. Their response – "no thanks, books on calling don't sell." A friend of mine said that perhaps there was something else I needed to learn that was meant for the book and until I learned it, I would be prevented from writing. He was right. Shortly after our conversation I was confronted with the decision of either following what God had put on my heart or staying with Ransomed Heart. It was as Oswald Chambers wrote, "If the Spirit of God has stirred you, make as many things inevitable as possible, let the consequences be what they will." And so, I left Ransomed Heart on July 1<sup>st</sup> after being with this ministry for seven years.

I have learned a great deal over the past year, which I value highly and which I did not see coming.

What amazes me is that I never approached Cook Publishers about this book. In fact, I never wrote a book proposal for them. A friend, after hearing me speak on calling at Wild at Heart, asked if he could look at some of the chapters I had written and if I would mind it if he showed my material to several other editors at Cook.

I have not written you this letter as a formula for getting published; I just wanted to share with you the journey that God has taken me on. But I do think these concepts are universal: fear is greatest in the vicinity of our desires; perseverance is always needed in the direction of our destiny; there is always more we must learn and become.