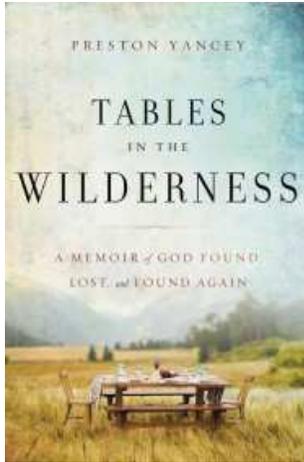




Contact: Pamela McClure
(615) 595-8321
pamela@mmpublicrelations.com

SPIRITUAL MEMOIR OF A MILLENNIAL **PRESTON YANCEY WRITES OF GOD FOUND, LOST, AND FOUND AGAIN**



Grand Rapids, Mich., May 16, 2014 —Just six years ago, Preston Yancey entered Baylor University with his life figured out: he was Southern Baptist, moderately liberal, had a girlfriend he thought he would soon propose to, and planned to study political science. Then God slowly allowed Preston's secure world to fall apart until every piece of what he thought was true was lost: his church, his life of study, his girlfriend, his best friend . . . and his God. Preston's first book, ***Tables in the Wilderness: A Memoir of God Found, Lost, and Found Again*** (Zondervan, October 1, 2014) recounts his honest and slow return to the God he thought he knew.

Tables in the Wilderness reflects the words of Psalm 78, which questions whether God can do the impossible, whether God can or will feed God's wandering people. Preston's own journey is one of coming to terms with a bigger God than he knew before -- the God of a common faith, the God who makes "tables in the wilderness," the God who is found in cathedrals and in forests and in the Eucharist, the God who is so big that everything must be God's. Today Preston is a patchwork of Anglican spirituality and Baptist sensibility – with fans of his writing spanning Christianity's spectrum.

Both as a popular blogger and a newly published author, Preston's insightful writing shares the perspective of a millennial Evangelical, the son of a Southern Baptist pastor, who both lost and found God on a university campus. His story unfolds the power of silence, community, friendship, liturgy, literature, questions and professors who take the time to mentor.

Studies show that Millennials are less likely to be affiliated with religion than previous generations, but Preston's story reveals how one intelligent college student wrestled with doubt, made peace with questioning, and found a God who was big enough for the challenges of 21st-century life. Preston poignantly describes the people and events that have shaped his spirituality, including his mother's chronic and painful neurological condition, his father's career as a Southern Baptist pastor, the end of a high school romance, his failed attempt at leading a small church, the attraction of liturgical worship, and the quiet guidance of a spiritual director.

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Says Preston: "I have spent too much of my life being certain about God, and I am entering into a season just feeling free enough again to wonder. It is my prayer the reader of *Tables in the Wilderness* will journey with me."

"I don't know exactly what it is about Preston's writing, but you manage to find a million points of connection no matter how your spiritual path has meandered.... As you turn the very last page, your soul is yearning for God, and you know that he will be found." **Jen Hatmaker**, author of *Interrupted* and *7*

"Preston's book reads like a carefully crafted novel, replete with unexpected twists that will captivate audiences. It is a tale of someone with enough spiritual chops to ask difficult questions about God and life. Read it and uncover a faith worth believing." **Jonathan Merritt**, author of *Jesus Is Better than You Imagined*; senior columnist for Religion News Service

Preston Yancey is a lifelong Texan raised Southern Baptist who fell in love with reading saints, crossing himself, and high church spirituality. He now makes his home within the Anglican tradition. He is a writer, painter, baker, and speaker. An alumnus of Baylor University, Preston completed a Master of Letters in theology from St. Andrews University in Scotland before returning to the States. He is engaged to be married in June, and currently lives in Waco, Texas.

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A Memoir of God Found, Lost, and Found Again***

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Contact Pamela McClure, McClure Munsinger Public Relations,
615-595-8321 or pamela@mmpublicrelations.com