

*An honest look at the holes in your life—
and how to let God fill them*

{w}hole

LISA WHITTLE

Foreword by George Barna

“With remarkable courage and unwavering honesty, Lisa Whittle writes the whole story—and leaves you ravenous for the only wholesome food for souls: Jesus. If you can’t stand the pangs of your holiness any longer, pick up this book.”

ANN VOSKAMP

Author of *One Thousand Gifts: A Dare to Live Fully Right Where You Are*

“Lisa Whittle gets it. Her history with the church, her passion for Jesus, and her respect for the story come together in this book called *Whole*. As a grandson and a son of a pastor myself, I value this much-needed message. Lisa offers bold truth to people desperate to find God.”

CHRIS SEAY

Bestselling author and pastor of Ecclesia Church, Houston, Texas

“[In *Whole*, you] will read about a woman who moved beyond loving the idea of a holy and omnipotent God to personally experiencing and enjoying the presence of that God. . . . I pray that you will allow Lisa’s hard-won lessons in transformation and spiritual growth to help you on your journey to wholeness.”

From the foreword by **GEORGE BARNA**

Founder of The Barna Group and author of *Futurecast*

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BARNA 

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*To my earthly father, Jim Reimer . . .
who has taught me about grace.*

*To my heavenly Father, Jesus Christ . . .
who has made my soul well.*

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Foreword

One of my favorite expressions is that to hammer everything looks like a nail. So let me offer the disclaimer that yes, I am a numbers guy. I measure everything and then try to make sense of the outcomes. Given that fact, it may not be surprising that I would posit that Christians in America have a spiritual measurement problem.

Over the three decades that I have been conducting research on faith matters, one of the consistent discoveries has been that we overestimate our own spiritual maturity. We tend to think we're better informed and a lot deeper than we are. It wouldn't be a big deal except that when we give ourselves more credit than is due, such an inflated self-assessment often stands in the way of genuine growth and depth.

In preparation for the writing of Lisa Whittle's book *Whole*, The Barna Group conducted a nationwide survey

among a representative sample of 603 women, age 18 or older, who consider themselves to be Christians and are regular church attenders. Ninety-five percent of them say they have made a personal commitment to Jesus Christ that is important in their life, and two-thirds of them can be classified as “born again,” based on that commitment and their belief that by confessing their sins and accepting Jesus Christ as their Savior, they will receive eternal salvation.

We learned that Christian women are very comfortable with the state of their faith and spiritual maturity. For instance:

- 81 percent described their relationship with God as “extremely close” or “very close.”
- 78 percent are “completely” or “mostly” satisfied with their spiritual development.
- 74 percent said they are mature in their faith.
- 65 percent claimed to be “deeply spiritual.”

Really?

It’s not my role to judge anyone, but those are some pretty lofty, flattering statistics. What makes me uncomfortable accepting them at face value is that they don’t seem to be consistent with some other results that the same survey provided. Jesus said that you will know a person’s

nature by his or her fruit (Matthew 7:16-20). The survey revealed that the self-assessment of Christian women does not necessarily reflect the fruit of transformed people:

- Only 13 percent said that being a follower of Jesus Christ is the most important role they fulfill.
- Only 16 percent identified their faith as their highest priority in life.
- Only 26 percent listed their top goal in life as something related to their faith or spirituality.

Do you sense a disconnect?

My concern is deepened by the six-year research project I recently completed, an extensive study resulting in a book titled *Maximum Faith*. The study, based on more than fifteen thousand interviews with men and women from across the nation, explores how God transforms people's lives. I should note that less than one out of every twenty-five adults has experienced spiritual brokenness; less than one out of every fifty has surrendered and submitted his or her life to God; and less than one out of every one hundred has a profound, love-driven relationship with God that results in being able to exhibit extraordinary, Christlike love for other people.*

*See my book *Maximum Faith* (Ventura, CA: Metaformation and New York, NY: Strategenius Publications, 2011), 17–26.

Additional overtones of dissonance are evident in other research findings. For instance, Lisa and I discovered from the survey undertaken for this book that of eight particular struggles in life that women frequently face, there was not one of those that a majority of women said they “constantly,” “frequently,” or even “sometimes” struggle with. The list of challenges included such common struggles as envy or jealousy, lust, and arrogance—each of which was said to be a personal challenge by less than one out of every five Christian women!

In a similar vein, the research found that less than one out of every three Christian women in the US admit to wrestling, even “sometimes,” with fear, doubt, or confusion. And to be clear about this: previous research I have conducted among men suggests that the same kinds of issues are present among them.

Is it fair to suggest that perhaps we American Christians overestimate our spiritual strength and depth? Is it reasonable to suggest that we are uncomfortable admitting—even to ourselves—that we have significant spiritual struggles and are not as bonded to God as we would like to be? Is transformation so uncommon among Christ followers because we are not willing to do the tough stuff required for us to get over ourselves and hand control of our lives to God, fully trusting Him with every decision and nuance of our existence?

Becoming Whole

The paradoxes identified through research—i.e., the gap between self-perception and behavior—relate to the issue of transformation. Whose values have Christians really embraced: God’s or the world’s? Which strategy for wholeness is more likely for Christians: the pursuit of daily comfort or the acceptance of situational suffering? What story are Christians most willing and likely to share with others: the orderly, upbeat, happy-ending tale or the narrative of personal brokenness, suffering, and total dedication to Christ?

Lisa Whittle is an unusual Christian, one who is willing to let God determine the trajectory of her life and to work within the parameters He sets for her. That may be the most biblical way of growing, but it certainly is not the most common lifestyle choice. She probably doesn’t do it perfectly, but God doesn’t expect perfection from us, only consistent obedience.

The research confirms that for the remnant who cooperate with God and allow Him to fully transform them, it is a long, difficult route to follow. It is the same pathway that led to the refining of Paul, David, Moses, and many other heroes of the Christian faith. It is how God works to impassion our hearts, strip us of pride, bolster our trust in Him, reorient our thinking, refocus our attention, and bring peace to our souls. It is not an easy way.

It is the only way.

As you read Lisa's account of how God rerouted her journey, you will encounter the sure signs of someone who has lived the life of the "good, American, Christian woman" only to find that it is a lifestyle infected by social distortions. Thankfully, she has remained attuned to the heart, the voice, the ways, and the will of God, enabling her to recover from a multitude of cultural distortions and distractions that derail our quest for wholeness. You will read about a woman who has moved beyond loving the idea of a holy and omnipotent God to personally experiencing and enjoying the presence of that God. Lisa makes the shift from chasing acceptance by the world to truly seeking only His acceptance. She finally sees through the emptiness of religion and replaces it with the fullness of a significant relationship with God. She recognizes the necessity of dying to self and allowing the Holy Spirit to take control of her being.

The transformation process is not complex, but it is demanding. As Lisa's story will show you, we are not as tough and capable as we think we are, but when we finally surrender to the Spirit of God, we become tough enough to thrive. It takes a determination to allow grace and love to be sufficient in the struggle of daily meaning and purpose. It requires a new self-perception in which

our role is no longer that of the strong and independent overcomer, but that of the God-dependent servant.

You and I have holes in our life story that can only be filled by God. When we allow Him to be the centerpiece of our life, we transition from a self-made person seeking to transcend the ordinary into an ordinary person capable of doing extraordinary things through the empowerment of God. It's a choice we all face. Too few choose wisely.

I pray that you will allow Lisa's hard-won lessons in transformation and spiritual growth to help you on your journey to wholeness. May her story help you to transition from someone plagued by holes to someone who becomes whole in Christ.

George Barna

JULY 2011

Introduction

THIS BOOK ALMOST DIDN'T HAPPEN.

It was written in its entirety exactly one year ago. And then I threw it in the trash. Something just wasn't right.

I grieved it. I didn't know what to do. God had sidelined me and yet the passion inside of me to deliver the message in this book wouldn't go away.

It was not the only time I was sidelined during the writing of this book. The other came even more inconveniently. In the midst of my second attempt, with the pressure of a looming deadline, I found myself flat on my back in bed in my dark bedroom, staining my down comforter with my tears.

It was right before I wrote chapter 6.

God, what do You want from me? I asked. Only the sound of the natural settlement pops of the house spoke back, so I continued.

I can't write this book without Your help. I don't know what else to say or how to say it. I just want to share my story.

That's when He spoke to my heart.

But what you wrote is not your story, Lisa.

I was taken aback. How could God tell me it wasn't my story when I had lived it, in the flesh? Surely I knew what my story was. I told Him so, in those exact words. My reasoning didn't faze Him, as He continued.

Those are details of your life—your circumstances and experiences. But your real story is what happened between you and Me on the pages of your journey. It's a story you've always had.

At that moment, this book became about more than just the incredible circumstances that happened to me. It became about the whole story: wholeness, the holes within that kept me from it, and the Jesus who made it all complete. It can be your story too. The whole story—the story of wholeness, whereby Jesus fills the voids within that are left in the aftermath of life experiences. It is the wellness of our souls from His healing presence in our lives. It is exactly what we need when we are limited by the gaping holes from our journey—and yet those holes can become exactly the pathway to craving the completion God brings. Our holes may be a necessary part of the journey, but wholeness can become the new story of our life.

I wrote this book because I see a great need among believers. I find us moved by the idea of doing big things for God, but I see life holding us back from it. We have experiences we can't get past. We doubt that God can use us. We don't understand the true purpose of our life outside of the roles we play on an everyday basis. So though we are stirred by pastors, authors, speakers, and leaders to become more for God, we are stifled in that process. As a result, we are a bunch of believers with great intentions that never become the reality we live out.

Whole was written to help position believers better to become the people we were created to be—so that we can serve Jesus the way we were created to do. It addresses the core need of every believer—to become well and whole by the power of God, a step that is often overlooked in our quest for spiritual abundance. I strongly believe that when we are positioned better, our life will show the result.

In the process of recognizing our holes and making the choice to become whole in every area of lack, I believe we will discover our whole story. When we do, we will understand what to share and naturally desire to share it, making an impact on those who occupy space with us in this world. And in case you haven't heard, there is a world full of searching, desperate souls who

need what we have in a person named Jesus. They just need us to represent Him well so they will want Him.

A major catalyst for the birth of this book was a book written by my esteemed colleague and friend, George Barna. I read his book *Revolution* right before my husband and I launched a church back in 2009. I underlined nearly every sentence, never having felt more personally understood by a book in my entire life. It thrilled me to realize that after years of playing professional pastor's daughter, stale religion was no longer my god. George's book had painted for me a true picture of what the thriving believer should look like, and finally that picture included me.

In the next few weeks after reading the book, I reflected on what had happened to bring me to such a spiritually thriving place. I wasn't always passionate about God. My choices had often kept me from being well within, even though I had given my heart to Jesus at an early age. My desire to serve Him was often overtaken by the compromises and circumstances of my life.

But finally reaching the point at which I determined I wanted more—more of God, more to life, more of my purpose—I went on a journey to find that *more*. It was then that I was motivated to take an honest look at the inner places where my skewed identity issues and difficult life experiences had limited me . . . and what I

needed to do to have them made whole. In the process, I found a vibrant new love for Jesus.

That is what I want for you. That is the journey I pray this book will take you on.

And in the end, after seeing the holes that have held you back and experiencing the filling of God within them, you will find the life of the revolutionary. You will be moved to fulfill a greater purpose. You will be empowered to share the story of your journey: how you once lacked in places that He filled . . . once craved what His hand freely offered . . . and once discovered the fullness of your life in the pages of your whole story.

Lisa Whittle

APRIL 2011

Some of the names in this book have been changed in order to honor the privacy of those who shared their stories. But all stories have been used with permission, and they are all completely true.

CHAPTER I

THE HOLE STORY

What seems a hindrance becomes a way.

HENRI NOUWEN

THE TEARS WERE FALLING IN RECORD NUMBER. I hated that I couldn't stop them. But when dams break, things get wet.

I had been to therapy, but this couch session was different. It wasn't a professional with a mahogany-framed degree who sat in front of me; it was my longtime friend, Monty. And he wasn't holding back his assessments.

"You doubt God, Lisa. You doubt what He can do through you."

His words jolted me, not unlike the moment in the

middle of a minor league baseball game just weeks prior when I was hit in the face by a stray baseball: I hadn't seen it coming and I thought, *Oh, that's what it feels like.* It's not that I hadn't been confronted with truth before. It's just that as a grown adult, it had been a while, and it hurt more than I had thought it would.

The presence of my husband next to me on Monty's sectional should have made me feel comfortable. Instead, I felt strangely exposed. Monty was a mentor to both of us, and we had been vulnerable with him before. But I didn't want my ugly private thoughts pulled out, being laid bare in front of anyone. The truth is, I still wanted them not to be true. If I didn't give them a platform, maybe they could continue to live behind the curtain.

But Monty had outed them for me, here in his living room, and I couldn't cram them back in. My husband and I had flown across the United States to vacation in a place where we could also spend time with Monty and his wife. But this confrontation was more than I had bargained for, and I found myself wondering if the trip itinerary should be dusted for the fingerprints of God.

My dam broke that day, releasing a flood of tears down onto Monty's corduroy couch. But it was because of much more than my embarrassment from the exposure. I cried ultimately because I knew what he said was true. No matter how much I wanted to deny it,

the journey of my life confirmed it: my story was full of holes.

My story: my life . . . my journey . . . the things I'd seen and done in my life. My holes: the things that had come as a result, limiting and defining me. Holes in my religion, roles, and experiences had kept me from many things: effectiveness, peace, fulfilling my created purpose. Some of them I had dealt with before, but others had found a corner of my heart to hide out in, lying dormant until something called them out. Doubt, lurking in the hole that my life experiences had formed, was being forced out into the open. The thought had nagged me for years while I ignored it, but now it had become evident to someone other than me. I wanted God to use me. I just wasn't sure He would.

I wonder if you relate to this feeling of wanting God to use you but not knowing if He ever will. I wonder if you are among the seventy million people who feel like something from your past is holding you back in life.¹ I wonder if, like mine, your story is full of holes—limitations that have gotten in your way or that have been allowed to live behind a curtain or hide out in a corner. I wonder if you know that all of that can change, or if you just think those are words that look good on the page of a book. Most of all I wonder if you know that you have a story to tell at all.

I have been the skeptic who doubted the latter for myself. I have been the good girl, and I have also been the bad. I have searched and found, loved and lost, failed and succeeded. I have been a religious addict—loving the idea of God more than His presence. I have seen Him stay around when others walked away. I have watched Him change the course of my life at a time when it was careening recklessly in a dangerous direction.

I have no reason to doubt. My first instinct was to tell Monty that. After all, the inner religious addict that was overthrown during my spiritual recovery some years back still lurks quietly inside, waiting for moments like this when it can rise up, if I allow it, to muffle truth again with its articulate, saintly manifesto.

But I was weary of that mess—that private place that feared soul exposure. I needed to own up to what Monty said, even though it was painful. I needed to deal with it so that the hole inside no longer had control over me. Throughout my life I had lived both ways, with my holes left unattended on the one hand and with Jesus filling them up on the other. And I knew that the only way my life would be made well was if truth won. Otherwise, I was relegated to a hollow existence—a number holder, occupying space in someone's line. That was something I could not accept.

I don't want you to accept it either. My friend, you

are not meant to live a hollow existence. You are not meant to live life relegated to your holes . . . to be a space occupier, a number holder. You are meant to be a world influencer, a life alterer, a game changer. You are meant to live life well by becoming whole. You are meant to be a storyteller.

This rich promise of your purpose is found in Romans 9:17: “I have appointed you for the very purpose of displaying my power in you and to spread my fame throughout the earth.” Jesus wants to take a wrecking ball to the barriers that keep you from your divine appointment to display His power in you. He wants to use your voice to spread His fame. The question is, is this something you want too?

You are meant to be a storyteller.

Dust this page for His fingerprints. They are all over this moment and all over your future . . . in the story . . . of your life.

But I Don't Have a Story

I have always known the power of a story. As the daughter of a pastor, I grew up hearing countless numbers of them told weekly from a wooden pulpit: persuasive, stirring, effective. I waited for them during the sermon every

Sunday, as if they were the ice-cream truck and my sweaty hand were ready with my fifty cents. The stories mattered. I loved them. I needed them to help me make sense of everything else in the finely orated message delivered by my father. I could remember them and often did, well on into the next week . . . the next story . . . the coming years of my life, even when I remembered nothing else.

For a time, I was satisfied with hearing someone else's story. The translated pages of another person's life intrigued me. But at some point, I wasn't satisfied any longer. I suspect it happened right about the time an evangelist in eelskin cowboy boots came to our redbrick church in the heart of a small Oklahoma town.

I don't remember his name, but I remember the color of his hair (sandy brown) and his story (sordid). He'd had four stepfathers—they'd all abused him. He left home at sixteen. Became homeless a year later. Lived in an alleyway. Drank his liver to near failure. Prayed for his life to end.

Of course, it didn't. But there was an ending to the sordid part of his story, and it was glorious. It had to be, I knew, for him to stand on the stage as a preacher. After all, people who got on stages had their lives all together. That's what I thought.

The glorious portion of his story was this: Someone told him about God. He was offered a home and

doctored back to health. He got his GED, enrolled in Bible college, and studied to become a minister. His was an amazing story: vibrant, captivating, and neatly tied up with a shiny Jesus bow.

But all I can remember thinking as I sat in the padded pew, a young girl who loved to listen to someone else's story, was, *I don't have a story*. It was as if I knew that the safe, beautiful life God had blessed me with would never be worthy of sharing on a stage. Suddenly, I didn't want to hear someone else's story. I wanted to have one of my own.

Maybe the circumstances of your life have left you in no doubt as to what your story is and you need no convincing that your story is worthy to be shared. Or maybe like me, you have lived your life listening to other people's stories, and there is a place inside that burns to have one of your own: one to know, to share, that's important. No matter the point at which we are on our wholeness journey, we all want our story to matter—to resonate in the heart of another. But first we have to know we have one and that it can make a difference.

I can assure you: you do and it can. Jesus did not create people without stories or without giving their stories purpose. We all have empty places that we need Jesus to fill—even those of us who have already experienced the healing presence of God in certain areas of our

life, but as life happens, different holes have surfaced. The stories we live are not perfect. They don't have to be tied up in a crisp, shiny bow before we can share them. True, we will never be whole in the most complete sense until we reside in heaven. But based on the promises of Scripture about the joy we can experience on earth, I believe a measure of wholeness is possible in this life. Otherwise our story is just about our holes, and that leaves out Jesus. (And really, who would be compelled by that?) Wholeness through Jesus is a story meant to change the very course of life, starting with your own.

Why Your Story?

There has never been, nor will there ever be, any better storyteller than Jesus. His stories were so powerful that He was not without a captive audience to hear them, and usually that audience was packed full of eager, story-hungry people. This is exactly what happened in Matthew 13, when He spoke to the large crowd from a boat that sat by the populated shore. In the midst of His storytelling, His curious disciples asked Him, "Why do you tell stories?" (verse 10, *The Message*)

Jesus replied in just a few compelling words. "I tell stories: to create readiness, to nudge the people toward receptive insight" (verse 13, *The Message*). He could've rattled off some articulate spiritual manifesto. But

instead, He spoke as He always did, with spiritual directive and purpose. Jesus, the great storyteller, said much even in these few words: that stories are important; that they are readers, movers, prompters of the heart.

Stories level the playing field of human worth. There's no special training needed to share a story. There's no hierarchy of calling. There's no sensationalistic hook required. Just a life that is changed. A willing heart. A passionate soul.

Why *your* story? Because you are the best one to tell it. Because it will create space for Jesus in the hearts of those who hear it. Because it will nudge someone toward receptive insight into their Creator. Because someone else can deliver factual information about the experiences of your life, but only you can be the living, breathing representation of its details. There is no one better to make the name of Jesus—master storyteller, whole-life giver—famous.

Holes in Your Story

Let's be honest: on our journey, things get in the way of wholeness. There are roadblocks to our lives being well. Life is complicated by outside factors we cannot control, and Jesus let us know up front this is the way it would be when He said, "In this world you will have trouble" (John 16:33, NIV). Things we experience on the

outside—struggles we have or issues beyond our control, like health problems—can and do compromise our well-being. But these are not holes. Holes happen within. They are voids in our soul. They are the result of things that happen to us on our journey of life.

Often this involves a confusion about religion, our pathway to God—one of the primary places for Satan, the very real enemy of our souls, to succeed at pulling us away from God. If we can be confused by our religion, we can be limited in our faith. In the lives of many believers, holes have been formed through disappointment in the church, feelings of being judged and misunderstood by other believers, or mistrust for ministry leaders who didn't use their leadership well.

Roles are another big creator of holes—the way we see ourselves and decide our worth based on what we do or who we think we are. Even though we know that our true identity is in Jesus, things threaten to skew it, either making us feel insignificant or causing us to feed on pride.

And then there are our experiences. Big. Life altering. Real. In many ways, these troubling outside factors Jesus is referring to in John 16:33 are what can help create some of our deepest holes. But sometimes it will be our own decisions that change our lives in ways that lead us away from what is pure and good. Other times it may be internal beliefs we hold on to that eat away at our soul.

Experiences shape us, and they can create holes. But they don't have to.

Holes take away so much from us. They plunder our vibrant relationship with God. They limit our future and define our past. They prevent us from being well within. They keep us from sharing our whole story.

But with every hole comes an opportunity. In many ways, we need the holes so we will be spurred on to pursue what is better. For every place where we lack the filling of God, He is ready, able, and willing to step in and produce completeness. What was empty, ritualistic religion can become the place where we find a most authentic faith. The role that changes without our permission or makes us feel too important can become the catalyst to make us seek and embrace our true identity. The experiences we gather on the pages of our journey that disrupt, hurt, confuse, and limit us can become the circumstances in which we most see God. So to extend Henri Nouwen's idea, our hindrances produce a way to experience more of our Creator. Holes are not the end of our story. In the wholeness journey, they are truly our beginning.

As Your Journey Begins

Give this moment your full attention.

You can't change what you don't recognize as a problem. Your holes may be giving off signs: discontent, lack

of fulfillment, fear, pain, shame, pride, anger . . . and as with me, doubt. Pay attention to those signs, because they may be pointing to a great hole that is keeping you from wholeness, limiting your potential for God. But don't stop there. Recognize that even in the depths of those voids, you are on the cusp of vast opportunity.

In the events of my life, as you will soon read, there was always a choice: to live with the things that limited me or to bring them from behind the curtain to provide a platform for change. Sometimes I chose well; sometimes I didn't. (You have this choice, too, even at this moment.) In the midst of my most incredible experiences, even the most painful, there was a groundswell of hope that beauty could come from the ashes. It is one of God's greatest gifts to us—the hopeful promise of turning ugly into beautiful—and it is ours, unconditionally.

Sharing my story has been in many ways more difficult than the exposure of my doubt. Those things I expose in the coming pages, about which I have stayed silent for almost twenty years—my prison break from formulized religion, the excruciating loss of a defining role, the soul refinement of painful experiences—have led to my spirit's exhaling the personal testimony that *it is well, it is well with my soul*. I marvel at this today, praying that God will continue this work in my life, keenly

aware of my very human capacity to fall away from truth, to compromise my own wholeness.

What about you? Is your soul well? Is anything holding you back from that beautiful place called whole?

I pondered these questions myself in the days after my truthful couch session with Monty. And though I preferred to keep my doubt tucked safely behind the curtain, I knew it needed to be allowed a platform so truth could win. Yes, I was a believer in Jesus. Yes, I had come a long way in my faith. Yes, I knew the Bible and loved my Creator. And yes . . . I was limited by the doubt in my life that He wanted to use my story. That was the truth, and the truth was ugly. Because it wasn't really about doubt at all; the doubt was just a symptom. It was about the hole that held me back from God.

And as I allowed the dam to break over this thought once again, this time in the privacy of my bedroom closet, I told Jesus, *This moment is Yours. Don't hold back. Tell me the whole story.*

And in the way only He can, He held my heart as He reminded me of my journey: of the lost things that He restored . . . of broken places that He fixed . . . of gaping holes that He filled . . . of things that had been sick that He made well . . . of a little girl who finally found her story, the one she had been living all along.

WHOLE

It is what Jesus, the greatest storyteller of all time, wants to show you. Give this moment to Him. Ask Him not to hold back. And then sit expectantly at the shore of hope as He shares with you the details of your whole story.

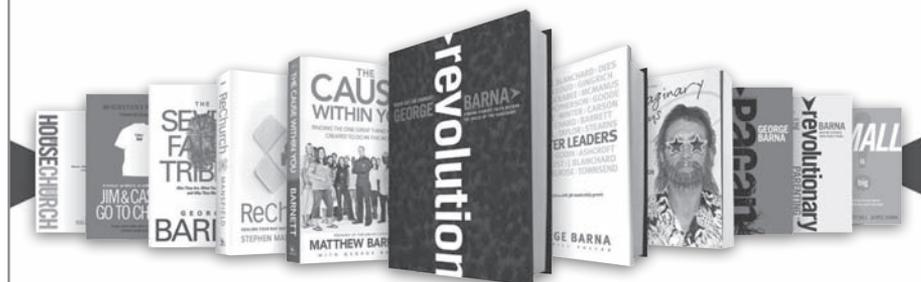
Questions to Consider

1. Do you believe you have a story? If so, do you understand why God might want you to share it?
2. What is a hole? How have holes held you back in life?

About the Author

LISA WHITTLE is the author of three books, including her latest with Tyndale's Barna imprint. A fresh, bold voice in the Christian community, she is a speaker, ministry leader, and pastor's daughter with deep roots in the church. Her past experiences include writing stints with Catalyst and Women of Faith, church planting, national media appearances, and traveling with Compassion International. She speaks to audiences across the United States, inspiring conversation about wholeness by the transparent sharing of her own story. Lisa, a wife and a mother of three, resides in North Carolina. Visit her online at www.lisawhittle.com.

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