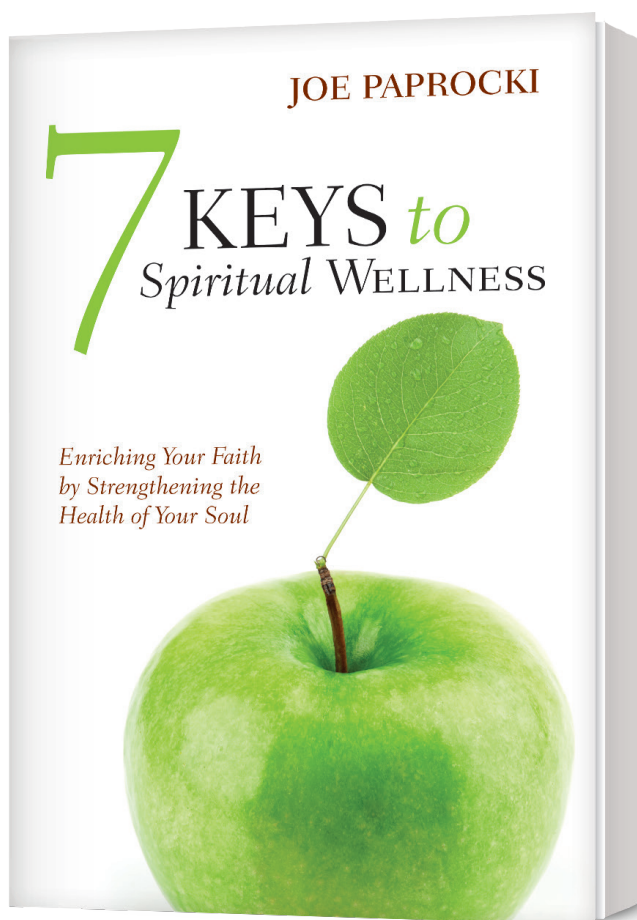




# ONE BOOK ONE PARISH

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## A Six-Week Discussion Guide



# **WEEK ONE: Chapter 1, Seeing Yourself As You Truly Are**

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1. Who in your life plays the role of the court jester? Who keeps you humble?
  
2. What are recent examples of celebrities or athletes “tooting their own horns”?  
Why are spiritual wellness and tooting your own horn incompatible?
  
3. How does gratitude help us to practice humility?
  
4. Who are examples from Scripture of humility, and how can we emulate them?

## **WEEK TWO: Chapter 2, Actively Seeking the Good of Others**

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1. What do you most fear losing?

2. What prevents you from actively seeking the good of others?

3. What situations cause you to compare yourself with others?  
To whom do you most often compare yourself?

4. What can we learn from the examples of St. Paul, St. Ignatius of Loyola, St. Francis of Assisi, and Mother Teresa with regards to “playing by the new rules” of Jesus?

## WEEK THREE: Chapter 3, Thinking Before Acting

1. What is some good advice for discerning when under fire?
2. Who are your “lifelines” (e.g. who do you turn to for help when discerning)?
3. How do you understand the notion of God’s anger?
4. How can anger be a good thing?
5. What does it mean to you to “wear the helmet of salvation”? (Eph 6:17)

## **WEEK FOUR: Chapter 4, Holding on Loosely**

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1. What security object did you hold onto when you were a child?
2. What adult security blankets do we sometimes turn to?
3. What does it mean to be a steward of God's creation?
4. How can the Lord's Prayer be considered our "declaration of dependence"?

## **Chapter 5, Recognizing and Setting Limits**

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1. What are some events in life that "take the bite" out of us and cause us to develop a spiritual itch?
2. What are some of the most prevalent ways that people today try to "scratch" their spiritual itches? What way do you turn to?
3. How can we identify when a behavior has become excessive (become an addiction)?
4. What advice does the book offer for "scratching the itch the right way"? Which suggestion resonates most with you?

## **WEEK FIVE: Chapter 6, Seeking Beauty**

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1. What is your dream vacation spot? What is most beautiful about this place?

2. Where and how do you experience transcendence?

3. What biases does our contemporary culture have against beauty?

4. How can focusing on the notion of God as Beauty aid us in our spirituality?

5. What does it mean to fall in love with God?

## **WEEK SIX: Chapter 7, Unleashing Your Imagination**

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1. What sparks a fire in your heart? What stokes your imagination?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Which of the following is the biggest challenge to you: indifference, distraction, cynicism, or relativism?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Who is the most imaginative person you know personally?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. What are some of the forms of expression in the language of the soul (imagination)? Which one most resonates with your experience?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. What are some concrete ways to “light the fire of imagination”? Which suggestions are your favorites?