

A Wild Faith

Discussion Questions

- * Discuss some of the “God-moments” you experience in the natural world.
- * How does Abraham Joshua Heschel, as described in the book, differentiate between fear and awe? Do you agree?
- * Do you agree with Heschel’s assertion that awe is the root of faith? What is at the root of your faith? When do you feel awe?
- * Have you ever felt engaged in an I-Thou relationship with a tree or an animal? Describe what that experience was like.
- * Buber’s revolutionary insight—the Eternal opens up like a window in the here and now when we enter genuine relation with a Thou—locates God in the concrete details of our lives rather than a purely spiritual dimension of the soul or far off in the Heavens. How does this compare to your experience of God?
- * What is the difference between attachment (*devekut*) and repentance (*teshuvah*) as paths to God? In what ways are you more comfortable with one of these spiritual paths over the other? Why?
- * What are the dangers of freely adapting non-Jewish customs into Judaism? Do you agree with Rabbi Comins’ criterion for “authentically” (p. 177) integrating new customs into Judaism? Why or why not?