



Walter Brueggemann

A group discussion led by
Jacob Stocking



Podcast for consideration

[https://youtu.be/
nnz2J6wvGJY](https://youtu.be/nnz2J6wvGJY)

Title:

The Ache: Contemplations pt.1/4

Author:

[Bittersweet Monthly](#)

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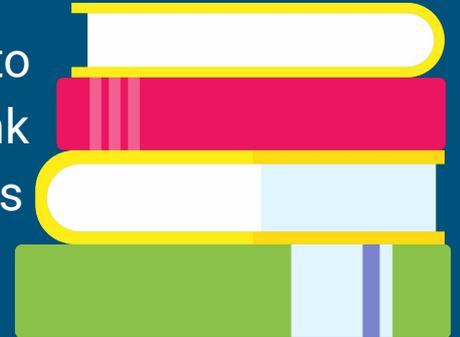
Youtube

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Summary

Mr. Brueggemann opens with a discussion of his incomprehension of the current millennial situation, and the destructive nature of a self-serving narrative. He elaborates, saying that self sufficiency is a myth and that we can only be "secured" by someone who is more powerful than us. He asserts that pain must be discussed lest it turn to despair. Relationships are more important to achievements according to Mr. Brueggemann. He posits that many millennials, if they think critically, know that the American narrative (American dream) is unconvincing.



Questions

1. As members of Generation Z, would you say that we are better at working together than the previous generation was?

- In some senses we are working better together using social media to spread awareness, and discuss issues as a generation.
- Social media is definitely a tool that past generations weren't able to access, and it allows us to be hyper-aware.

2. Do you believe that relationships are more important than achievements, and if so, why?

- Relationships are more important than achievements, which are temporary, because then you're looking for the next thing.

Questions

3. How would you define the American Dream, and is there any way you think it should be redefined for modern times?

- It's definitely important to be motivated and strive for success, [the American dream] defines success as you're gonna go out and make lots of money; for many of us the American dream might be just living, someone else might even want to become a priest or a nun.
- I feel like the American dream is being financially secure.

Comments

- At the beginning of the pandemic I thought social media would tear down lines of communication and initially it did. But I feel like it's helped keep us connected.
- He talked about helping our neighbour. That really stuck with me. Relationships are very important: relationships with ourselves are important. In the end it's about loving our neighbour.