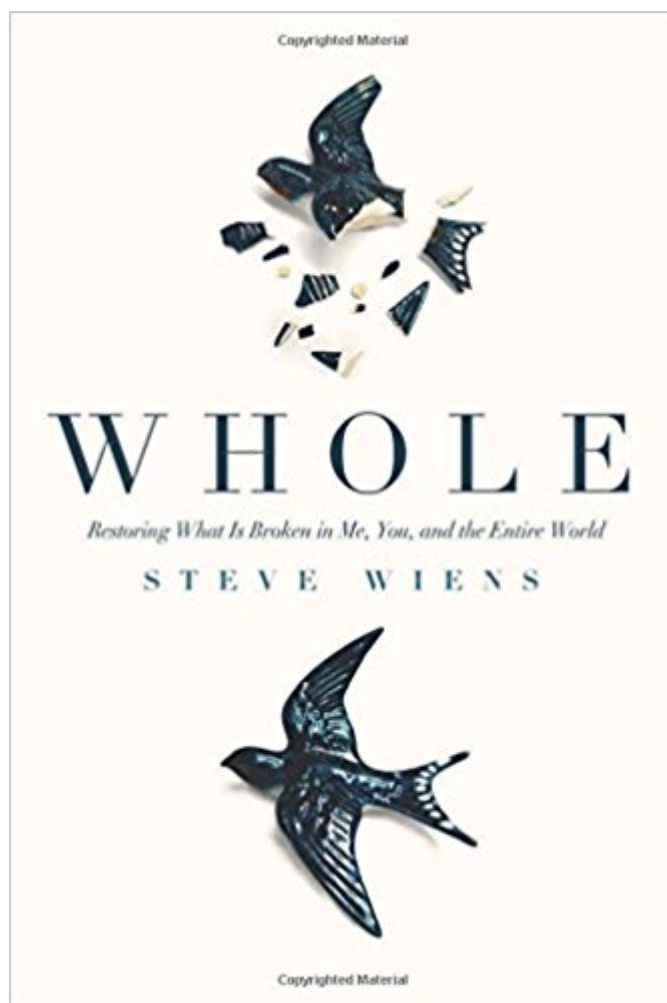


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# Whole: Restoring What Is Broken In Me, You, And The Entire World



## Synopsis

Look around, and you'll notice: The world is covered with jagged edges. People and places are broken all around us. We were made for better than this: We were made to be whole, and wholly human, to tend a world that is wholly humane. We were made in the image of God. This book is a quest to recover that image in ourselves and our neighbors, to help us all become human and humane again. For Christians who lament the brokenness in themselves, their neighbors, and the world around them, *Whole* offers a rallying cry to pursue wholeness together.

## Book Information

Paperback: 192 pages

Publisher: NavPress (August 22, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1631464043

ISBN-13: 978-1631464041

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.4 x 8.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars 41 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #64,026 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #18 in Books > Religion & Spirituality > New Age & Spirituality > Self-Help #51 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Christian Living > Leadership #67 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Christian Living > Death & Grief

## Customer Reviews

This book is beautifully written, and the honesty in its pages invites the reader's honesty--which is, in my view, one of the best things a book can do. This is a book that will transform you. SHAUNA NIEQUIST, Bestselling author of *The Present Over Perfect* Steve Wiens is a writer unique in my experience of reading books, and I have read a lot of them. What is unique about *Whole* is that he inserts you (me!) into the biblical story in a way that makes the story convincingly contemporary with us. His children (he has boys), his wife (one wife), and his friends (he has many) become authentically biblical, and we find ourselves living in our own backyards what we previously had only read about. EUGENE H. PETERSON, Professor emeritus of spiritual theology at Regent College, Vancouver If you are looking for a simplistic solution to the brokenness you see in the world (and in yourself), this book won't be helpful. But if you're willing to leave the known for the unknown and if you dare to ask the soul-enriching questions found in Steve

Wiens's imaginative work, you just might find yourself on the road to wholeness. **RICHARD ROHR**, Founder of the Center for Action and Contemplation I've been lucky enough to sit around a fire in Steve's backyard and talk into the night, and I left that evening feeling as though I'd been breathing fresh air into my lungs. You will feel the same when you read *Whole*. Steve has a gift for telling stories that connect at the deepest level to your own story. This is inspired and compassionate writing that invites us to step into our own promised land. **STU GARRARD**, Songwriter and author of *Words from the Hill* Many authors who brave the subject of brokenness lead us down one of two paths: One glosses over the pain with sugary anecdotes or bulleted prescriptions. The other leaves us wallowing in the pain a bit too long, with perhaps no hope for redemption. Rarely does an author show us another way. Steve Wiens does just that--carving out a new trail where brokenness meets beauty, where humility is a catalyst for becoming whole. **MATT BAYS**, Author of *Finding God in the Ruins* Steve Wiens's book *Whole* stopped me in my tracks. It is a timely, prophetic message not only for the culture and church at large but also for every individual seeking a life of shalom on a deeply personal level. This book forced me to look at others with compassion and gentleness, grace and potential. But more important, it forced me to look inwardly at myself with that same gentle spirit. I'm so grateful for this book, and I look forward to handing out copies to everyone I know along the path to wholeness. **NISH WEISETH**, Author of *Speak: How Your Story Can Change the World* Steve reminds us that it is in the ordinary of everyday life that we are daily invited to experience and participate in the extraordinary. Not extraordinary in the sense of superheroes, but in the simple journey of living into who we were created to be all along. We are the restored ones, and in the sacred mundane of everyday life, we are invited to participate with God in restoring our broken world. This book is not only a reminder of who we are but also an invitation into our collective healing. Let's get after it together. **JON HUCKINS**, Co-founding director of The Global Immersion Project I am a huge fan of pastor Steve Wiens and his savory new book, *Whole*. I tore into it, huge chunks at a time, hoping that his words would heal the hunger in me. Instead, he convinced me that hunger is the lifeblood of being human and that questions are, like bread crumbs, the path to wholeness. If you, too, need fresh perspective on your story, Wiens is a salty sage worth reading. **ERIN LANE**, Author of *Lessons in Belonging from a Church-Going Commitment Phobe*

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Whole. Steve has a gift for telling stories that connect at the deepest level to your own story. This is inspired and compassionate writing that invites us to step into our own promised land. (Stu Garrard, Songwriter and author of Words from the Hill)

Steve Wiens's second book, *Whole* is a book for those who are seeking to experience life in the way God designed it. It is a book that helps you to find shalom in this broken world. As you read *Whole*, Steve shares personal stories that are transparent, honest, and vulnerable. He allows you to see his own brokenness and how God is helping him to be whole. Steve shares Bible stories that you might have heard in your past, but shares them in a way that helps you see how God is talking to you today. It is a very easy read that engages you and interacts with you. The questions for reflection that Steve adds at the end of each chapter provides the reader with an opportunity to find their own brokenness and how God is longing to bring shalom to their lives. Be ready to be wrecked. If you allow yourself to interact with the book, you might find your own brokenness and where God is making you whole again. Get this book today and experience wholeness.

This book is an invitation to stop running from our struggles, shortcomings, heartaches, inadequacies, anxiety, failures, fear and anything else we might associate with brokenness. It is an invitation to not only hold space with but name our brokenness. By doing so we will then find peace, restoration and wholeness. The author challenges our "fight or flight" gut reaction to vulnerability and instead he gently guides the reader to consider a different approach, one that has us enter the Scriptures vs. just reading them.

The strength of this book lies in the honesty and humility of the author. Wiens shares his real life experiences, including personal failures, and weaves them together with biblical wisdom which produces a fresh and unique perspective. What emerges from these pages is an accessible and encouraging message that smacks of truth-the kind of truth you can feel deep down in your bones. This little book will leave you with an undeniable feeling of hope and a knowing that you are not alone.

After spending the last few years walking through lots of grief, pain and transition....this book was real, refreshing and full of the kind of hope I needed. Steve's masterful storytelling and truth-telling guide us through a series of questions that are relevant in every space and season. I read it twice in

the first month of having it, copied quotes onto my bathroom mirror and passed it on to those I love. Restoration is possible.

It took me much longer to read this than I thought it would. It was a tough read, reminding me to look harder and deeper at what I do to "chase" wholeness and bring it to myself, rather than letting God bring it to me by leaving myself intentionally empty, open and vulnerable to what he is trying to do in me rather than trying to "bake my own bread," or "bake bread" for others. I can't recommend it highly enough.

I loved Beginnings, Steve Wiens' first book. Whole answers the questions of 'what's next' after you have done the work that Beginnings invites you into. It isn't intended to be a sequel to Beginnings, but it works well that way. Definitely a book that you read with a pen in hand and when you are in a place to be open to what God might have in store for you. Personal challenges in each chapter.

An excellent read about how to care for ourselves and for others. Steve helps unpack what it means to bring not only peace, but wholeness. It's a timely book for what's going on in our world and the ways we can engage in restoration and love. I would recommend this book to anyone who's searching and asking questions.

This book is timely, deep and beautiful. Steve shares stories from his community and connects them to the text of scripture in a really unique way that helped me find a sense of peace. This work is SO timely for recent current events, I could not recommend it more.

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