

## *Book of the Month*

# August 2010

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

SUN

**The Hole in Our Gospel. Richard Stearns.  
Thomas Nelson. Nashville. 2009.**

Although he says it with great respect, Richard Stearns (President of World Vision) believes that the Gospel that has been preached and believed by most American Evangelicals has a hole in it. It is incomplete. Being a Christian “requires much more than just having a personal and transforming relationship with God. It also entails a public and transforming relationship with the world (p. 2). The Gospel is about more than getting a fire insurance policy for the world to come. It is also about doing justice, loving mercy and walking humbly in this one! “The Gospel – the whole Gospel – means much more than the personal salvation of individuals. It means a social revolution” (p. 20).

Perhaps the best part of the book is the author’s own testimony. Prior to becoming president of World Vision, Richard Stearns was president of Parker Brothers Games and later CEO of Lenox, Inc. The story of how this corporate executive finally turned his back on wealth and power to use his gifts in helping the poor is worth the price of the book.

But Stearns writes not just to tell a story. He writes to issue a challenge. What does God expect of us? What if two billion people in the world who call themselves Christian would embrace the whole Gospel? Can you imagine a world where armies of compassion were actually not just talking about God’s love but demonstrating it? This book will challenge you to invest your time, talents and treasures in the work that God is doing in the world. “We are God’s Plan A.... and He doesn’t have a Plan B” (p. 277).

*Pastor Stan Key*