



Faith & Medicine Film 1

Medicine and a God That Sees Us

Discussion Guide

1

The doctors in this film speak about wanting to practice medicine with Christian values, such as being fully present to others, and giving patients time and attention. Yet they describe the current practice of medicine as often being in conflict with those values — the focus on efficiency, the unsustainable pace, the frequency of burnout. Do you think this is true in other professions, too? How should Christians handle the conflict between their Christian values and what’s required from their work?

2

Dr. Frush tells the story of treating an unhoused man who is angry, cursing, and resistant as he’s trying help him. The doctor thinks to himself, “Right here is the *last* place I want to be.” But then he senses God’s voice saying to him, “This is me. I am here.” And so the doctor responds differently to the man. He reacts with patience and compassion. What do you think would be the impact if Christians at work viewed every person they are serving, or every colleague, as though God had just said, “This is me. I am here.”

3

Dr. Patrick Smith says that we need to do our work with a vision of hope: “Hope is having a moral vision that things don’t have to be the way that they are.” But he says that hope “is not based on an empirical reality. Hope is informed by a larger vision beyond ourselves” and is therefore a “mode of resistance.” What would happen if Christians viewed their work with a vision that “things don’t have to be this way,” and thus as a mode of resistance?