Chapter 2 Summary

- A key to making peace last is for peacebuilders to develop the skill of seeing wholes instead of just seeing isolated parts.
- Systems thinking requires people to see the interconnections between distinct elements of a system, to see causality in dynamic rather than linear terms, and to look for patterns of behavior.
- Systems thinking, particularly the concept of dynamic causality, is better suited than linear models to longer-term, complex problems (such as ending poverty).
- In order to build a systemic theory of how to create Peace Writ Large (or sustainable macro-level peace), it is helpful to look for patterns in how complex systems change.
- This view produces the SAT model, which holds that sustainable change in complex systems requires change in three domains: the structural, attitudinal and transactional. Further, transactional peacebuilding serves as the catalyst for structural and attitudinal change.