

GROWING AS DISCIPLES THROUGH DISCIPLINES

February 26, 2021

BIG IDEA OF GROWING AS DISCIPLES THROUGH DISCIPLINES:

As disciples we pursue spiritual disciplines by putting in the hard work of engaging in deliberate actions to help us develop in Christlikeness and deepen our delight in Jesus.

1) WHY SHOULD WE PURSUE SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES? *FOR OUR CHRISTLIKENESS AND DELIGHT IN JESUS*

JESUS OFFERS THE ABUNDANT LIFE

JOHN 10:10: The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

MATTHEW 13:44: “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.

THE ABUNDANT LIFE IS THE CHRISTLIKE LIFE

MATTHEW 7:24-25: “Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. 25 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.

ROMANS 8:28-30: And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. 29 For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. 30 And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

2 PETER 1:3-4: His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. 4 Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

2) HOW SHOULD WE PURSUE SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES? *PUTTING IN THE WORK*

2 PETER 1:5-11: For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; 6 and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; 7 and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love. 8 For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 But whoever does not have them is nearsighted and blind, forgetting that they have been cleansed from their past sins. 10 Therefore, my brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election. For if you do these things, you will never stumble, 11 and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

PHILIPPIANS 2:12-13: Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, 13 for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

3) WHAT ARE THE DISCIPLINES? *DELIBERATE ACTIONS*

1 TIMOTHY 4:7-8: Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives' tales; rather, train yourself to be godly. 8 For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.

DISCIPLINES OF ADDITION (DOING)	DISCIPLINES OF SUBTRACTION (GIVING UP)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Study• Prayer• Feasting• Celebrating• Worship• Service• Fellowship• Confession	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Solitude• Silence• Fasting• Frugality• Chastity• Sacrifice• Submission

THE GOAL: We are undivided in our devotion to Jesus by adding and subtracting certain actions from our everyday lives so that our love for affection for Jesus and effectiveness as a disciple-maker will be multiplied.

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