

REVIVE YOUR SOUL #3

What We Must Do To “Abide in the
Vine.” Our Practices for Soul Rest
and Vitality

WE MUST ACT AND ACT WISELY UNDER GRACE

- Col. 3:5-17
- II Peter 1:2-11
- Phil. 2:12-16

Grace is not opposed to effort, but to earning. “Boasting is excluded.” Rom 3:27

The Golden Triangle of Spiritual Growth

The Action of the Holy Spirit

John 3:5 ▪ Rom. 8:10-13 ▪ Gal. 5:22-26

**Centered in
the Mind of
Christ**

Phil 2:12-15

Rom. 13:14

**Ordinary Events of
Life: “Temptations”**

James 1:2-4

Rom. 5:1-5

**Planned Discipline to
Put on a New Heart**

Col. 3:12-17

2: Pet. 1:5-10

YOUR RESPONSIBILITY FOR GROWTH IN GRACE

- **YOU MUST SELECT ACTIVITIES THAT CHANGE YOU UNDER GRACE.**
- **YOU MUST PLAN ON BEING DIFFERENT.**
- **THIS IS NOT ACTS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS BUT WISDOM UNDER GOD.**
- **TO NOT DO THIS IS TO PLAN TO STAY WHERE YOU ARE SPIRITUALLY.**

OBEDIENCE IS NOT LEGALISM—”WORKS”

- THE AIM IS NOT TO DO (OR NOT DO) THE DEED. (E.G., NOT KILL, LIE, ETC.)
- THAT IS THE WAY OF THE PHARISEE
- ALWAYS LEADS TO FAILURE AND TO HYPOCRISY. (LUKE 12:1)
- BECAUSE IT DOES NOT CHANGE
WHO YOU ARE ON “THE INSIDE.”

“CLEANING THE INSIDE OF THE CUP.” (Matt. 23:25)

- If you would keep the Jesus’ teaching, don’t aim at that, but at becoming the kind of person who naturally (supernaturally of course) does that: Routinely, easily!!!
- The source of good and evil in human life is the human “heart.” (Mark 7:21-23, Luke 6:43-45, Prov. 4:23)
- And then all of the parts of the human self.

WHO IS THE DISCIPLE?

- ONE WHO TRUSTS JESUS CHRIST FOR EVERYTHING, KNOWING HE IS INDEED THE LORD OF LIFE, MASTER OF EVERYTHING.
- ONE WHO IS **WITH HIM**, LEARNING **FROM HIM** HOW TO LEAD THEIR LIFE IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD AS HE WOULD LEAD THEIR LIFE IF HE WERE THEY.

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DISCIPLINES FOR FULL LIFE IN CHRIST

- A DISCIPLINE IS SOMETHING IN MY POWER THAT ENABLES ME TO DO WHAT I CANNOT DO BY DIRECT EFFORT.
- STILL VALID IN THE REALM OF GRACE.
“MEANS OF GRACE”
- ILLUSTRATION. (JOSH. 1:8, MATT. 26:41)
- FOLLOWING JESUS INTO HIS PRACTICES.

Solitude

Solitude is the choice and practice of being alone, being apart from the press of the usual human connections.

Sabbath and doing nothing

Long periods



Two Forms of Silence

- No Noise. Quietness
- Not Talking



Fasting

Fasting is actually
feasting upon God,
being nourished by God.



Frugality

Frugality as a discipline consists in abstaining from using money or goods at our disposal in ways that merely gratify our desires or our hunger for status, glamour, or luxury.



Study

In Study we focus our mind upon something to bring its substance and order into our mind and from there into the rest of our life.

JOSH. 1:8

- THE IMPORTANCE OF MEMORIZATION



Worship

Worship is the act and state of ascribing greatness to God in every respect:
Especially in immensity and in goodness, in knowledge and in power.



How Does One Practice The Disciplines?

- **Decide to live as Jesus' student**
- **Begin to obey His teachings**
- **Observe why you fail**
- **Do in reliance on the Spirit what will remove the causes of failure – These will be DISCIPLINES**

ALL HE TAUGHT IS GOOD AND POSSIBLE

- Not as law, but as expressions of kingdom living now inhabiting us.
- “Beyond the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees.” Matt. 5:20
- Examples of anger, contempt and looking to lust or “cultivated lusting.” Matt 5:22-30
- The transformation of the mind. Rom. 12:2

ABIDE IN THE VINE...

- “If you continue/abide/live in my word, then you really are my disciples, and you shall know—live interactively—with the truth, and the truth shall set you free.” John 8:32
- Free from what? The power of sin.
- We abide by practicing the disciplines for the spiritual life, by following Jesus into his practices.
- We thus “work out our individual deliverance with fear and trembling.” Phil. 2:12

THE LIFE OF JESUS IN US SEEN IN SCRIPTURES

- IT'S ALL TRUE
- IT WORKS
- IT'S ACCESSIBLE TO ANYONE WHO WILL PUT THEIR CONFIDENCE IN JESUS AS THE LORD OF GLORY.
- THERE IS NOTHING ON EARTH TO COMPARE WITH IT.