

Spiritual Practices Week 3 – Engagement

Read: Matthew 6:21-24, 1 Samuel 15: 17-25, Luke 8: 42b - 48

Share: We are spending four weeks understanding spiritual practices and how they can help us as a church become more and more like Jesus and overflow His goodness into our nation. In our third video, Ryan, Charlotte and Priscilla will unpack the spiritual practices of engagement and how they can form us into Christlikeness.

Watch: Week 3 Video - Engagement

Discuss:

1. How does what we watch, listen to, or do, form us?
2. Compare Saul's choices in 1 Samuel 15 to Jesus' choices in Luke 8. How do they differ?
3. How does Saul's "fear of man" drive his choices?
4. How could Saul have become aware of his fear and what could he have practised that would help him to not be led by this?
5. What is something you regularly do that is beneficial to you keeping in step with the Holy Spirit?
6. Can there be a difference between the spiritual practices becoming another to do list and them becoming formational practices? How can we ensure this happens?

Extra:

What practices would you add to the list below that are good for engagement?

- *Study - Engaging ourselves, above all, with the written and spoken Word of God.*
- *Worship - "Engaging ourselves with, dwelling upon, expressing the greatness, beauty and goodness of God through thought and the use of words and symbols."*
- *Celebration - "It is the completion of worship, for it dwells on the greatness of God as shown in his goodness to us."*
- *Prayer - There are many different forms of prayer: intercessory, lectio, reflective, etc. The practice of prayer is more about connection to God and awareness of God.*
- *Community - Essential in this day and age. "Christian redemption is not devised to be a solitary thing, though each individual of course has a unique and direct relationship with God, and God alone is their Lord...but this life is one that requires some regular and profound connection with others who share it. It is greatly diminished when that is lacking."*

Others to note:

- *Confession*
- *Submission*