

Sermon Outline – January 17, 2016

Faith Grows Through Private Disciplines

Joshua 1:7-9 2 Timothy 3:14-16 Matthew 6:5-6

1. Five Catalysts for Growing Faith: Practical Teaching, Private Disciplines, Providential Relationships, Personal Ministry, Pivotal Circumstances.

- Is your faith growing? _____ Do you want your faith to grow? _____
- The goal for this series: Each of us will take at least _____
_____ to have our faith grow.
- Growing our faith is God's work. We take steps to ...

2. What is often our reaction to disciplines?

- What is a definition of a discipline?
- Disciplines are beneficial even if I have a _____.
- What do disciplines sometimes become?
- What are often the results of disciplines?

3. In Matthew 6 Jesus is recorded as teaching on what three disciplines?

- What do Christ followers often report along the path of growing in faith?

4. What do we learn from the Christian disciplines we are resisting?

5. AGREE DISAGREE *“There is a direct correlation between a person's private devotional life and his or her personal faith. When God speaks to us personally through His Word or answers a specific prayer, our faith is strengthened.”* – Pastor Andy Stanley

6. According to Matthew 6, Jesus would _____ with this statement

- V.1 – What did Jesus teach about these disciplines and why?
- V. 6 – What is the incredible blessing of *our Father who sees what we do in private?*

7. What is the “reward” of discipline quiet time with the Lord?

- From 2 Timothy 3:14-16

- From Joshua 1:7-8

8. Putting it all together, what are the rewards we receive from the private discipline of prayer and reflecting on Holy Scripture?

Practical Next Steps So Far:

- Spend ten quiet minutes before each worship to ask God to prepare your heart to hear and learn from the worship.
- Ask other Christians that you respect how they apply what they hear in a sermon.
- **Begin a daily quiet time with the Lord of prayer along with reading and reflecting on a Bible passage.**

9. Final thoughts: