

Discussion Guide

04/21/2024

Habits and Rabbits, WK3

Distracted Faith

Pastor Daniel Groves

Main Idea

The habits we choose will determine the number of detours we take. Our choices can either steer us in the direction of God's design for our lives or divert us from his plans and blessings. This weekend we are going to talk about distractions that can impact our faith.

Anchor Verse:

The fundamental fact of existence is that this trust in God, this faith, is the firm foundation under everything that makes life worth living. It's our handle on what we can't see. (Hebrews 11:1, MSG)

Read Matthew 13:1-9

Distractions Can Choke Out Your Faith

It is important to grow in our relationship with Jesus every day because it plows and cultivates and stirs up the hardened places in our lives.

Read John 15:5

What cares of the world have become distractions in your life, choking out your faith?

Distractions Can Dilute Our Focus And Commitment To Our Faith

Distractions can lead to a shallow spiritual life where surface-level engagement with Jesus replaces deep, meaningful spiritual cultivation.

Read Proverbs 13:12, Matthew 14:29-31

What distractions are causing you to be overwhelmed by life's storms? What are the root causes of those distractions?

Strategies To Maintain Focus

Spiritual disciplines can help us to maintain and even restore our focus on our faith.

Read Numbers 6:24-26, Romans 10:17, 2 Corinthians 5:7; Psalm 119:107, Isaiah 41:10

First 20 - 5 minutes in worship, 5 minutes in prayer, 5 minutes in the Word, and five minutes remembering and being thankful.

[21 Days of Prayer](#) - twice a year, next one is August 4-24

[HC Groups](#) - community is crucial in maintaining a focused and active foundation of faith.

[Dream Team](#) - "If you're too big of a deal to serve, then you're too small to LEAD."

Mid-Week [Bible Studies](#) & Chapel at the Hope City Headquarters

What can you start doing today to refocus your faith away from distractions? What effect will those spiritual habits have on your life, your family, and your community?

SUMMARY

Distractions move us away from His holy intention. They choke out our faith and dilute our commitment to Him and His ways. The daily choice to develop spiritual habits will help us to check for weeds so that we can produce much fruit and maintain our focus on His Kingdom.

CALL TO ACTION

1. Referring to John 15:5, commit to staying connected to the vine by using the first 20 methods.
2. Take a moment and list out the fruit that you are bearing by remaining connected to the vine. Take some time to thank Him for using you for His glory.

3. Consider your next step to deepen your focus and your faith. Perhaps it's to serve on a team, to lead or join a group, or to share your faith with a coworker. It's time to walk by faith.

GROUP LEADER RESOURCE

Game: Twizzler Tie Up

Form groups of two and hand each team 10 Twizzlers (make sure they are fresh). The goal for each team is to tie the Twizzler into a knot. The catch is that although they work together as a team, each participant can only use one hand. The first team to tie up all 10 is the Twizzler-tying champ!

After your winner is announced, ask the teams a few questions to get them talking.

1. What was your strategy going into the game?
2. What was the hardest part of the game?
3. What do you think was the most valuable element for success?
4. What do you see as the life lesson from this game?