

MAAK 'N VERSKIL 9 – GEESTELIKHEID

KOLOSSENSE 2:4-23

LUKAS 24:30 - 'En toe Hy met hulle aan tafel was, neem Hy die brood en dank; en Hy breek dit en gee dit aan hulle. '

Gister by die rugby = Coach Arno sê – sjoe hy weet nie meer nie. jy se vir die kids doen dit dan spring hul rond gee nie aandag en doen die teenoorgestelde wat gevra is.

A group of tourists visiting a picturesque village (skilderagtige dorpie) walked by an old man sitting beside a fence. In a rather patronizing (neerbuigende) way, one tourist asked him, “Were any great men born in this village?” The old man replied, “Nope, only babies.”

Every person who is a born-again believer starts life as a baby in Christ. Whether the new convert is six or sixty, that person is still a new Christian and needs to grow in the Lord. A baby Christian who has been saved for forty years is a tragedy. God intends for us to grow and mature so that we can be a positive influence in the lives of others. Until we learn to dig into the meat of the Word for ourselves, we will never grow.

The Research

The #1 reason Millennials claim church attendance is not important is that “I find God elsewhere”

In 2012, Jefferson Bethke’s spoken word Why I Hate Religion, But Love Jesus went viral racking up more than 33 million views.

About a quarter of U.S. adults (27%) now say they think of themselves as spiritual but not religious – up 8 percentage points in five years³³.

It’s true...

While church attendance may be declining, spirituality is actually on the rise.

Why does this matter?

The Christian tradition is steeped in rich spiritual practice. Prayer. Meditation. Communion. Baptism. Fasting. Solitude.

...just to name a few.

Setting aside a yearly sermon series to explore the spiritual practices of Christianity will meet a felt need amongst your church and community, while also allowing you to refocus on the ancient traditions of the Christian faith.

Related Bible Verses:

PSALMS 119:15-16 - 'Ek wil u bevele oordink en op u paaie let. Ek sal my verlustig in u insettinge, u woord sal ek nie vergeet nie. '

WOW= ALLES SOOS ONS DIT GEKEN HET HET VERANDER.. Mense ontmoet Jesus op soveel ander maniere deesdae en eintlik moet ons as kerk baie goed voel daaroor. Die bottomline is mense vind Jesus nogsteeds al is dit nie in die kerk nie.

Ons as kerk moet ook onthou dat ons nie Jesus beheer en wie Hom ontmoet nie.. die Here werk in misterieuse manier.

Mense wat hier sit – se my bietjie – wie van julle het Jesus ontmoet op ‘n ander plek as in die kerk. Jy’t Hom miskien leer ken in die kerk, maar **waar het jy jou oorgawe gemaak?**

Vandag praat ons oor geestelikheid en hoe om dieper in die Here te wees – hoe om in ‘n dieper meer persoonlike verhouding met die Here te wandel.

Om alleenlik meer kerk toe te gaan kan help, maar jy moet ekstra doen.

Ek sien dit so – toe ek nog ‘n bokser was was die Maandae en Woensdae aande se oefeninge vir 2 ure nie genoeg nie. Ek het meer nodig gehad. Jy kan nie ‘n champ word as jy net 2 maal ‘n week jou sport beoefen nie. onmoontlik. Dit is die minimum.

Balangrike gevegte in jou lewe kan alleenlik gewen word met opoffering.

Baie wat hier sit doen slegs die minimum vir hul geestelike lewens.

FEIT 1 – Ons wil geestelik sterker word.

Feit 2- Ons wil geestelik selfstandig wees. (vs afhanklikheid)

Feit 3 – Ons wil geestelik Volwasse wees.

Feit 4 – Ons will geestelike oorwinninge geniet.

The story is told of a young girl who accepted Christ as her Saviour and applied for membership in a local church. “Were you a sinner before you received the Lord Jesus into your life?” inquired an old deacon. “Yes, sir,” she replied.

“Well, are you still a sinner?”

“To tell you the truth, I feel I’m a greater sinner than ever.”

“Then what real change have you experienced?”

“I don’t quite know how to explain it,” she said, “except I used to be a sinner running after sin, but now that I am saved. I’m a sinner **running from sin!**” she was received into the fellowship of the church, and she proved by her consistent life that she was truly converted.

“A wife or husband may remain faithful and may give evidence of careful attention in matters pertaining to each other, and yet there may be a decline in first love. Similarly, a church member may be very regular in his attendance at the services, but no amount of activity, however intense, can compensate for a lack of love.”—Lehman Strauss

Velcroed for Growth.

Most spiritual growth doesn't come as a result of a training program or a set curriculum. It comes as a result of life putting us in what I like to call **a need-to-know or need-to grow** situation. Ain't that the truth?

Larry Osborne describes **need-to-know** as "...a predicament where we need to know God's viewpoint..." and **need-to-grow** as "... a tough trial or a stretching experience." Well that pretty much covers life on earth, so how do we in ministry equip people for this? Typically, with linear, systematic, programmatic instruction. In Larry's words: "**Take good notes now, because someday you'll really need this stuff!**"

I grew up under **the linear model** and recognize the defining features: learn it all (in order); store it in your head; apply it later. We argued over what "it all" means, and in what order. Long-term storage is especially tough when the knowledge is academic and not linked to real-world situations. Application may be hardest of all, since it requires wisdom to tie the knowledge to the experience, and usually requires a degree of perspective that cannot be achieved by a single individual.

Die heel beste plek om in jouself te vind in jou geestelike lewe is om in 'n klein groepie in te skakel hier by die plaaslike gemeente... Goed en wel jys betrokke by ander klein groepies by ander gemeentes, maar op die ou einde vandie dag gaan jy nie **soos Velcro – wees nie**.

Jy gaan onbetroubaar, onstandvastig en ongelukkig wees in beide van die gemeentes. Jys of voluit of halfhartig.

Kom ons leer om saam te groei –

1. Abide in Christ

1. Attend a corporate worship experience weekly.
2. Set aside a specific time and location for a regular quiet time.
3. Establish a practice of worship preparation through prayer and confession.
4. Learn about biblical fasting.
5. Practice fasting as the Lord directs.
6. Learn about your identity in Christ.
7. Regularly thank God and give Him praise in all situations.
8. Make a list of things that hinder your spiritual growth and seek God's help to remove those hindrances.

2. Live in the Word

1. Memorize one Scripture verses each week.
2. Memorize passages of Scripture.

3. Take notes from the pastor's sermon and other Bible study experiences each week. Evaluate how the study applies to your life.
4. Establish a regular time for personal Bible study. Take notes from the study and evaluate how the biblical truth applies to your life.
5. Use commentaries and other study resources to enrich Bible study.
6. Read one chapter from the Bible each day. Discover one action required and do it.
7. Read one chapter from the Bible each day. Meditate on the character of God described in the chapter.
8. Participate in an ongoing small group Bible study.
9. Accept a Bible teaching position in your church.
10. Lead a small group study related to living by God's Word.

3. Pray in Faith

1. Participate in the prayer ministry of your church.
2. Enlist a prayer partner and meet regularly for prayer.
3. Journal your prayers and record God's answers.
4. Organize a prayer ministry for your church or small group.
5. Lead a small group study related to praying in faith.
6. Pray each day.

4. Fellowship with Believers

1. Ask family members to identify ways you can improve your relationships with each one.
2. Ask friends to identify ways you can improve your relationships with each one.
3. Make a list of people who have hurt you and ask God for help to forgive them.
4. Participate in an ongoing small group to build relationships with other believers.
5. Complete an individual study related to building godly relationships in your marriage. Attend a retreat or workshop on parenting.
6. Attend a retreat or workshop on marriage.
7. Lead a small group study related to building godly relationships in marriage.
8. Lead a small group study related to building godly relationships as a parent.

9. Lead a small group study related to building godly relationships with others.

5. Witness to the World

1. Write your testimony and practice sharing it with another believer.
2. Secure several gospel tracts and distribute them as the Lord leads.
3. Learn to share your testimony without using printed support.
4. Make a list of non-believers you know and begin praying regularly for their salvation.
5. Begin building relationships with the non-believers on your street.
6. Begin building relationships with non-believers at work.
7. Invite an unchurched friend to worship or Bible study.
8. Include a specific missions focus in your prayers.
9. Share your testimony as God provides the opportunity.
10. Participate in an evangelistic missions experience.
11. Lead a small group study related to witnessing to the world.
12. With your accountability partner list places you visit in a normal week. Brainstorm creative ways of witnessing to the people you regularly see at these places.

6. Minister to Others

1. Complete a spiritual gifts inventory. Download a spiritual gifts inventory at www.lifeway.com/downloads.
2. Volunteer for a ministry in your church where you can use your spiritual gifts, interests, and natural abilities.
3. Send encouragement notes to your church staff.
4. Visit one homebound person each week.
5. Look for new baby bows on mailboxes in your neighborhood. Send a note of congratulations and drop off a gift or meal.
6. Volunteer to baby sit for a single parent in your church to give them a night out each month.
7. Volunteer to serve meals at a local shelter.
8. Volunteer to tutor students or help in a classroom at a local school.

9. Ask a member of your church staff to help you discover ways to minister to people on your street. For example, hold a small group meeting in your home quarterly to discuss topics such as marriage and parenting.

10. Lead a small group study related to ministering to others.