

WALKING IN THE WAY OF THE SPIRIT

Checking In

Power With or
Power Over?

What is Power?
Who has it?

How do I know
God is the source?

Practice



©2020 Dr. Boyd Whaley and Rev. Lynne Smith. All Rights Reserved.



Aha! Moments

Reflect on your practice this week.

When did you notice God at work in the world?

Did the experience alert you to something that matters to you?



Bonus:

Was there a rupture in a relationship?

Was there opportunity for repair?

WALKING IN THE WAY OF THE SPIRIT

Checking In

Power With or
Power Over?

What is Power?
Who has it?

How do I know
God is the source?

Practice



©2020 Dr. Boyd Whaley and Rev. Lynne Smith. All Rights Reserved.



David: From Shepherd to King

Power

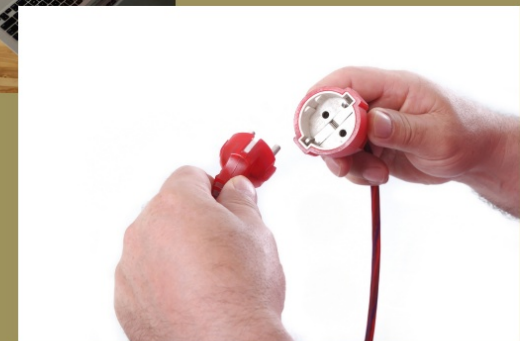
1 Samuel 16:1-13

“But the LORD said to Samuel, “Have no regard for his appearance or stature, because I haven’t selected him. God doesn’t look at things like humans do. Humans see only what is visible to the eyes, but the LORD sees into the heart.” 1 Samuel 16:7



Getting on the same page...

- **Dominate** = to exert the supreme determining or guiding influence on.
- **Collaborate** = to work jointly with others or together especially in an intellectual endeavor.
- **Authorize** = to endorse or empower by a recognized process or structure.



Anointed

- Read 1 Samuel 16:1-13
- Who has power in the text?
- How did they get it?
- How do I know whether or not the power is from God?



WALKING IN THE WAY OF THE SPIRIT

Checking In

Power With or
Power Over?

What is Power?
Who has it?

How do I know
God is the source?

Practice



©2020 Dr. Boyd Whaley and Rev. Lynne Smith. All Rights Reserved.



Power With or Power Over

Power Over

Power With
Power Among

“But Jesus called them over and said, ‘You know that those who rule the Gentiles show off their authority over them and their high-ranking officials order them around. But that’s not the way it will be with you. Whoever wants to be great among you will be your servant. Whoever wants to be first among you will be your slave—just as the Human One didn’t come to be served but rather to serve and to give his life to liberate many people.’”
Matthew 20:25-28



Brene Brown on Love and Power

Watch *Power With* with Brene Brown by clicking on the link in the web lesson.
4:10



What do you think?



Do you agree that love and threatening are mutually exclusive?

What are the characteristics of a church exercising power with or power among?

Are you using your power over others or with and among them?

WALKING IN THE WAY OF THE SPIRIT

Checking In

Power With or
Power Over?

What is Power?
Who has it?

How do I know
God is the source?

Practice



©2020 Dr. Boyd Whaley and Rev. Lynne Smith. All Rights Reserved.





Cause Thriving

Act with
Humility

From the
Heart

Integration

How do I know it's God?

What differentiates getting things done in a way that bears witness to God's power and getting things done in a way that draws attention to the work of human hands?



Cause Thriving

The one who so delights and muses on Yahweh's torah (*the lawfulness of reality*) will be like a tree transplanted alongside creek beds.

...Like a tree which gives its fruit in season. Its foliage does not wither. Everything this tree makes causes thriving.

An interpretation of Psalm 1:3 by Boyd Whaley



Act with Humility (not arrogant or prideful)

But that's not the way it will be with you. Whoever wants to be great among you will be your servant. Whoever wants to be first among you will be your slave—
Matthew 20:26-28

and the prophetic witness



From the Heart

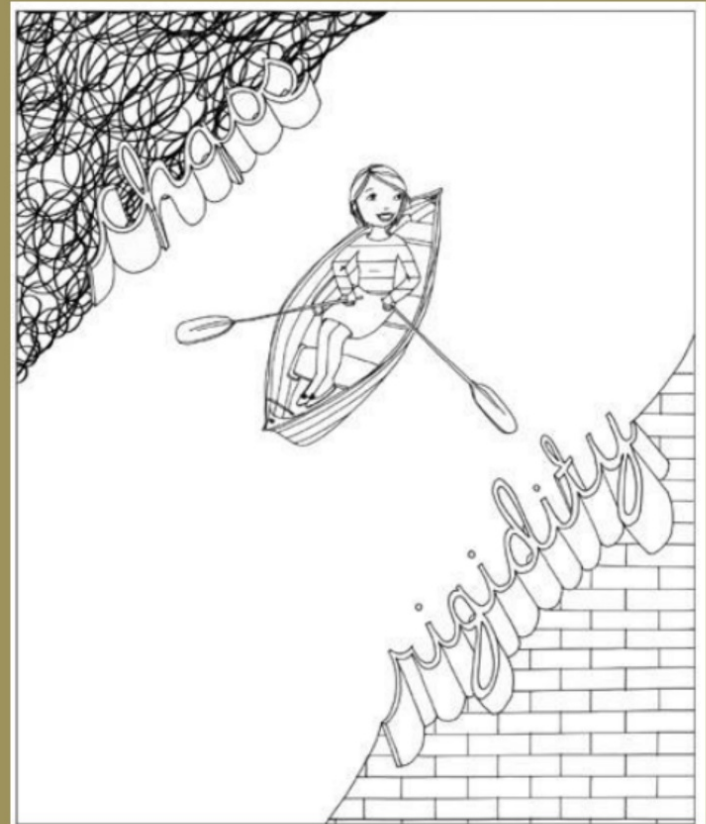
God doesn't look at things like humans do. Humans see only what is visible to the eyes, but the LORD sees into the heart.
1 Samuel 16:7b

and many others



Other Ways of Knowing?

Integration is the scientific word that suggests harmony, and is a marker of health. An action bears witness to healthy integration when differentiated parts are connected in a way that honors differences without becoming either rigid or chaotic.



from the 9/9/2015 Facebook post on
Dr. Dan Siegel's Facebook @drdansiegel

WALKING IN THE WAY OF THE SPIRIT

Checking In

Power With or
Power Over?

What is Power?
Who has it?

How do I know
God is the source?

Practice



©2020 Dr. Boyd Whaley and Rev. Lynne Smith. All Rights Reserved.



Practice

The spiritual journey is a discipline and requires intentional practice.

Homework

Click on the homework tag for this week's homework





THIS WEEK...

Every day pay attention to when you notice God at work in the world.

At least 3 times this week, jot down the who, what, when, where, and how of the experience. Bullet points are fine.

After noting the experience, comment on whether you witnessed power with or power over.

What characteristics/qualities informed your decision?



WALKING IN THE WAY OF THE SPIRIT

Checking In

Power With or
Power Over?

What is Power?
Who has it?

How do I know
God is the source?

Practice



©2020 Dr. Boyd Whaley and Rev. Lynne Smith. All Rights Reserved.

