

WALKING IN THE WAY OF THE SPIRIT

Checking In

God's Invitation

God's Signature

Community

Practice



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Aha! Moments

Reflect on your practice this week.

Did you observe power with or power over? Or both?
What characteristics/qualities informed your categorization?



Bonus:

How did the expression of power impact the relationship?

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How do we know God is at work?

Transcendence

Love

Wisdom

Power

A study of the Hebrew scriptures bears witness to the ways in which God works within the human story.



Genesis 1-11

- God is at work in the transcendent process of creativity



Genesis 11-50

- The family as the place where love and compassion are learned



Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers

- Prophecy
- Priesthood
- Law

flow from Moses's rage



Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, Samuel, Kings

- Authorizing power, not overwhelming dominance



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Called

Read Jonah 1:1-6
in the style of
Lectio Divina

Teresa of Avila

Frederick Buechner

Henri Nouwen

“Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah son of Amittai, saying, 'Go at once to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it; for their wickedness has come up before me.' But Jonah set out to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the LORD. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish; so he paid his fare and went on board, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the LORD.”
Jonah 1:1-3



Interior Castle

"Oh, souls set free by the blood of Christ! Learn to understand yourselves. Have compassion for yourselves. With self-awareness, how could you not strive to lift the black veil that darkens the crystal of your soul?"



Wishful Thinking:
A Theological ABC

"The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet."



Henri Nouwen Meditation
April 23, 2017

"But we were sent into the world by God, just as Jesus was. Once we start living our lives with that conviction, we will soon know what we were sent to do."



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Your Word

Barriers

Would Your
Rather?

Saying "yes" to God

To say "yes" to what God is
calling me to do, I need...

from my faith community.



Remember

Remember the word you selected in the first lesson that describes God's activity in the world? What was it?

Has this study affirmed your selection, or challenged it? Why?



Barriers to "Yes"

What prevents you from saying "yes" to God's invitation?



Would you rather...

- Pray out loud or take a meal to a family in need?
- Distribute food on the streets to those experiencing homelessness or serve communion during worship?
- March in protest of unfair treatment of immigrants or write letters to congress to influence legislation?
- Teach toddlers or visit nursing homes?



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Notice

Gratitude

Practice

Practice

The spiritual journey is a discipline and requires intentional practice.

Find the practice that works for you. It doesn't need to be lengthy. It can (and probably should) change over time. If it feels like drudgery, try something else.





Notice God at work

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

Find opportunities to share your stories.





Gratitude Practice

Consider starting a gratitude practice.

- Keep a journal and each day make a note of 3 things you are thankful for; or
- Each night at dinner share a gratitude, a challenge, and how you are handling the challenge as a check-in with family or friends; or
- include naming the things you are thankful for as part of your morning/evening rituals.





Awareness Practice

Consider a devotional practice.

Consider a mind-body awareness practice like Tai Chi or Yoga or Mindfulness Meditation.



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