

Praxis Series
Pathway Principles Part Two
09/02/23
Newport News

Opening

-tell story of moving into first apartment (staples...lol)

>If we are going to have a culture of discipleship then we must have a language for discipleship...

>also joke about using furniture polish on floors...lol!

Pathways

-Scripture, Prayer, Fasting, Worship

-Gathering, Reaching, Relationship, Accountability

-Service, Generosity, Stewardship, Rest

>>**Red, Yellow, Green**

-Remember, the 12 Pathways are the work that creates a spiritually vibrant life where virtues can grow.

-Pathways >> Virtues >> Godly Deeds

-Matthew 16:24-27

Pathway Principles (last 6 of 12)

-Principle of covenant...Genesis 15:7-17

(explain the ritual, joke about the old black and white Tarzan shows I watched on Sunday afternoons and how the natives tore explores in half...connect how this is a prophetic picture of Jesus dying for us since we have failed God and how we should want to pursue these pathways to honor God, considering how much it has cost Him!

-Principle of changelessness...Jeremiah 6:16

-talk about the movie candies of my day...how mom would sneak in candy from the grocery store...favorite candy? (**participation**)

-Genesis 2:21-23a...that feeling Adam had when he first saw her, I had that feeling when I first saw Vanessa

...that which will never change because it is, has been, and will always be perfect just like it is...and the 12 Pathways are just that...yes, technology will influence how I read, cultural preference will influence the sound of worship...but the essence of these 12 will forever remain!

-Principle of conspicuousness...Proverbs 8:1-9/Proverbs 1:20-33

-the principle of comprehension (last week) is about letting our hearts get out in front of our heads when it comes to how all of this works (listen to last week)...this principle acknowledges though that when you look at this list, you have an intellectual intuitiveness that says "well of course these are important for anyone who wants to be spiritually healthy!"

1 Corinthians 2:9-14...talk about the **characteristic of having a self-evidencing quality**...

-Principle of confrontation...Matthew 4:1

-talk about being ready for resistance...1 Peter 5:8...Ephesians 6:12

-there is always spiritual resistance at moments of breakthrough!

1. Jesus after His baptism
2. Jesus the night of His betrayal
3. Peter after Jesus' arrest
4. Paul...all the time (lol) – 2 Corinthians 11:23-28

-Psalm 91

-Principle of centrality...Matthew 6:33

-The rest of EVERYTHING in my life is dependent upon my diligence in pursuit of being a disciple! (seek...all things)...I wonder sometimes if I should be more demanding, when people are facing problems, have

they been diligent in the 12, if not, let's not be surprised there are problems!

-use tithing as an illustration here...100% of my income without God's blessing and favor is ultimately less than 90% of my income with God's favor and blessing...**the principle of centrality is a modern way of saying "first fruits."**

-Principle of Christ...Revelation 21:5 (joke about the elders bowing)

-so we were at the movies years ago...Ethan says, "So, Dad, what's to keep someone from buying a ticket and then just going from movie to movie once you get in?" ...leading to a conversation about the law of diminishing marginal returns...

-that law does not have any relevance in the Kingdom of God...there is a newness you will discover in these 12...but only if you have them all operating...**one of the reasons why some of them "diminish" is because you are not honoring the principle of connection!**

Band

-Welcome Home Moment

Close

-1 Corinthians 9:24