





# JANUARY 8TH NOTES


# ONE FOCUS

#### **JANUARY**

What is one thing you can do everyday this month to focus your mind's attention and heart's affection on who God is and what he has done? Choose something that is small and attainable... something that will fit into your normal daily rhythm, but something that will stretch and grow you a bit. Once you name it, use pages 6-7 to keep up with your progress and what you're learning.

# SPIRITUAL PATHWAYS TEST

Respond to each statement below according to the following scale on your answer sheet:

3 = Consistently/definitely true of me
2 = Often/usually true of me
1 = Once in a while/sometimes true of me
0 = Not at all/never true of me

- 1. When I have a problem, I'd rather pray with people than pray alone.
- 2. In a church service, I most look forward to the teaching.
- **3.** People who know me would describe me as enthusiastic during worship times.
- 4. No matter how tired I get, I usually come alive when a challenge is placed before me.
- 5. Spiritual reality sometimes feels more real to me than the physical world.
- I get distracted in meetings or services if I notice details in the surroundings that haven't been attended to.
- **7.** A beautiful sunset can give me a spiritual high that temporarily blocks out everything bothering me.
- 8. It makes me feel better about myself to hang out with people I know and like.
- 9. I've never understood why people don't love to study the Bible in depth.
- **10.** God touches me every time I gather with other believers for praise.
- 11. People around me know how passionate I feel about the causes I'm involved in.
- 12. I experience a deep inner joy when I am in a quiet place, free from distractions.
- **13.** Helping others is easy for me, even when I have problems.
- **14.** When faced with a difficult decision, I am drawn to walk in the woods, on the beach, or in some other outdoor setting.
- 15. When I am alone too much, I tend to lose energy or get a little depressed.
- **16.** People seek me out when they need answers to biblical questions.
- 17. Even when I'm tired, I look forward to going to a church service.
- **18.** I sense the presence of God most when I'm doing his work.
- 19. I don't understand how Christians can be so busy and still think they're hearing from God.
- 20. I love being able to serve behind the scenes, out of the spotlight.
- 21. I experience God in nature so powerfully I'm sometimes tempted not to bother with church.
- **22.** I experience God most tangibly in fellowship with a few others.
- **23.** When I need to be refreshed, a stimulating book is just the thing.
- **24.** I am happiest when I praise God together with others.
- **25.** "When the going gets tough, the tough get going" that's true about me!
- **26.** My family and friends sometimes tease me about being such a hermit.
- **27.** People around me sometimes tell me they admire my compassion.
- **28.** Things in nature often teach me valuable lessons about God.
- 29. I don't understand people who have a hard time revealing personal things about themselves.
- **30.** Sometimes I spend too much time learning about an issue rather than dealing with it.
- **31.** I don't think there's any good excuse for missing a worship time.
- **32.** I get tremendous satisfaction from seeing people working together to achieve a goal.

- **33.** When I face a difficulty, being alone feels most helpful.
- **34.** Even when I'm tired, I find I have the energy and desire to care for people's problems.
- **35.** God is so real when I'm in a beautiful, natural setting.
- **36.** When I'm tired, there's nothing better than going out with friends to refresh me.
- **37.** I worship best in response to theological truth clearly explained.
- **38.** I like how all the world's problems including mine seem unimportant when I'm praising God at church.
- **39.** I get frustrated with people's apathy in the face of injustice.
- **40.** If the truth were told, I sometimes feel guilty for enjoying silence and solitude so much.
- 41. I am happiest when I find someone who really needs help and I step in and offer it.
- **42.** Others know that if I'm not around, I'm most likely outside in a beautiful place.
- **43.** People around me describe me as a people person.
- **44.** I often read lots of books or articles to help me work through a problem.
- **45.** When I get overwhelmed, there's nothing like a good worship service to get me back on track.
- **46.** I should probably take more time to slow down, but I really love what I do, especially in ministry.
- 47. Sometimes I spend too much time mulling over negative things people say about me.
- **48.** I experience God's presence as I counsel some who is struggling or in trouble.
- **49.** When I see natural beauty, something wonderful stirs in me that is difficult to describe.

### **ANSWER SHEET**

Total each column and go to the next page to score your results. The highest number identifies your preferred spiritual pathway; the next highest number, your secondary pathway.

1		3		5		7
	9		11		13	
15		17		19		21
	23		25		27	
29		31		33		<b>35</b>
	<b>37</b>		<b>39</b>		41	
43		45		47		49
TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL

# SPIRITUAL PATHWAYS RESULTS

- **A. RELATIONAL -** I connect best to God when I am in community and doing life with others.
- **B. INTELLECTUAL -** I connect best to God when I learn: gaining insights about God and life with him.
- **C. WORSHIP -** I connect best to God when I am celebrating God's goodness with thanksgiving and praise through worship.
- **D. ACTIVIST -** I connect best to God when actively engaging with others to meet challenges, serve a cause, accomplish a goal or face injustice.
- **E. CONTEMPLATIVE -** I connect best to God through quiet prayer, being absorbed with God in solitude.
- **F. SERVING -** I connect best to God while completing Kingdom tasks, offering God's compassion to those the hurting or struggling.
- **G. CREATION -** I connect best to God in nature, appreciating the beauty and majesty and wonder of His creation.

MY #1	SCORE
MY #2	SCORE
MY #3	SCORE
MY #4	SCORE
MY #5	SCORE
MY #6	SCORE
MY #7	SCORE

This Spiritual Pathways test was taken from John Ortberg and Ruth Haley Barton, An Ordinary Day with Jesus: Participant's Guide (Barrington, IL: Willow Creek Association, 2001), 67-72. Used by permission, 2005.

### **ACCOUNTABILITY**

#### WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BECOME A DISCIPLE?

A disciple is simply a follower... a student... a learner. Being a disciple is choosing to put ourselves in this posture of being open to learning, open for the Spirit to move in our hearts and in our lives. It's putting ourselves in a position to be trained through correction, molding and perfecting through discipline in order to build our character and deepen our faith. Being a disciple is not a product or an event. It's a journey, not a destination. Becoming a Disciple requires discipline and accountability.

#### HOW DO WE INCORPORATE THESE DISCIPLINES INTO OUR LIVES?

This semester we are diving into becoming a disciple through worship, Scripture, prayer and rest. Each month, we will ask you to pick ONE FOCUS for the month, one way to incorporate that month's discipline into your daily life. Make it something doable that you can commit to daily but that will stretch you outside of your comfort zone.

We encourage you to have a mentor or accountability partner to check in on your progress throughout the month. If you do not already have that relationship built into your life, we hope you either connect with a small (no more than 2-3) group of friends to hold each other accountable, connect with some women at your table or let us pair you with a mentor/accountability partner for your journey.

#### WHY DO I NEED A MENTOR/ACCOUNTABILITY PARTNER?

Mentorship and accountability are intentional relationships that we all need in our lives. These are relationships much like those Jesus' disciples had. We need a Peter (accountability peer) in our lives who is walking with us and is experiencing the same struggles. We need a Paul (mentor) to look up to and learn from because he is farther along in his journey. We even need a Barnabas (mentee) who we can pass along the wisdom we have learned from our trials and successes. We want to provide an avenue for you to experience these relationships in this season of becoming a disciple.

### HOW DOES THE MENTOR/ACCOUNTABLITY PROCESS WORK?

There is a ONE FOCUS card at your table to let us know how you're pursuing mentoring/accountability and how we can help. Use the following 2 pages of your booklet to record your ONE FOCUS for the month and track your progress. Use the questions for discussion with your mentor/accountability partner through each of the approximate 10-day increments.

We want to help you succeed in diving deeper into Spiritual Disciplines this semester together by providing these tools to help you on your journey!

DISCIPLE THROUGH WORS

# **ONE FOCUS**

#### MONTHLY CHALLENGE

Use these bubbles to mark the days you follow through with your ONE FOCUS.

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31		2	3
4	5 COME TO					

### **WHAT'S NEXT?**

Use the questions on the next page to record your progress and have discussion with your mentor/accountability partner.

FEBRUARY'S LNO!

# **QUESTIONS**

DAYS 1-10 (JANUARY 9 - 17): How have you been successful in incorporating worship into your daily routine?
What changes have you seen in the past 10 days?
What has been the biggest challenge during the past 10 days?
What would you like to see happen in the next 10 days?
DAYS 11-20 (JANUARY 18 - 26): How have you been successful in incorporating worship into your daily routine?
What changes have you seen in the past 10 days?
What has been the biggest challenge during the past 10 days?
What would you like to see happen in the next 10 days?
<b>DAYS 21-30</b> (JANUARY 27 - FEBRUARY 4): What has been the biggest challenge during the past 10 days?
What have you learned about your style of worship during these 30 days?
In what ways will you continue to incorporate worship into your daily routine going forward?

# **SCRIPTURE MEMORY**

"You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you; I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you, in a dry and parched land where there is no water. I have seen you in the sanctuary and beheld your power and your glory."

Psalm 63:1-2

Use these pages to write out this month's Scripture as you practice memorizing it.	



### SCRIPTURE REFERENCES FROM TONIGHT

**JOB 38-41 -** God reveals himself to Job in a display of both majestic power and relational presence, telling Job of his own character and ability.

MATTHEW 2:10-11 - The wise men following the star to see Jesus and offer him gifts.

**PHILIPPIANS 2:6-11 -** Jesus took on human form and humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death. Therefore he was highly exalted and given the name that is above every name.

**REVELATION 5:12-13 -** Worthy is the Lamb.

**II SAMUEL 6 AND I CHRONICLES 16 -** David bringing the ark of the covenant back home to Jerusalem, ending with David's praise and worship (I Chronicles 16:8-36).

II SAMUEL 13-15 - The story of Amnon, Absalom, Tamar and David's escape to the wilderness.

**PSALM 63:1-8 -** David's psalm of prayer and praise while in the wilderness.

JOHN 4:23-24 - God is seeking people who will worship him in spirit and truth.

MARK 12:30-31 - Love God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength and love others.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Join our Facebook Group at facebook.com/groups/graceladiesnightout
- Follow us on Instagram at instagram.com/graceladiesnightout
- Mark your calendars for our future Ladies' Night Out on February 5th, March 5th and April 2nd

### **RESOURCES**

#### **BOOKS:**

Worship: The Reason We Were Created -Collected Insights from A. W. Tozer

The Life You've Always Wanted: Spiritual Disciplines for Ordinary People by John Ortberg

Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life by Donald S. Whitney

Celebration of Disciplines by Richard Foster

For All God's Worth: True Worship and the Calling of the Church by NT Wright Habits of Grace by David Mathis

#### **PODCASTS:**

The Gospel of Life Podcast - Worship by Tim Keller

Passion City Church Podcast - Extravagant Worship Parts 1, 2 & 3 by Louie Giglio