

Life Essentials: Reflecting on Habits of Grace
Chic Smith | July 5, 2020

Introduction: As we continue to live out the essentials that we considered over the past four weeks, this Sunday we have the privilege to hear the testimony of a brother who has seen God’s graciously use spiritual disciplines to bless him and his family.

Discussion Questions

1. James 1:22 calls us to be, “doers of the word, and not hearers only.” What effect should regular Bible intake have on our hearts and lives—and how does that happen?

2. John Piper has said, “A godly life is lived out of an astonished heart—a heart that is astonished by grace. We go to the Bible to be astonished.” What stories or passages of Scripture captivate your heart in this way?

3. In his book, *Habits of Grace*, David Mathis says, “to be a ‘disciple’ means literally to be a ‘learner,’” and he encourages his readers to be lifelong learners of God’s Word and His ways. Do you see yourself as this kind of person? If so...
 - What structure or program do you use to keep learning?

- How do you practice or live out what you learn?

4. Speaking on the topic of Christian fellowship, Mathis says that, “True fellowship...labors to win the lost...[and] serves to keep fellow saints saved.” He references familiar passages like John 13:34-35 and Hebrews 10:24-25. How can we create a culture of this kind of fellowship at Calvary Baptist Church? (Friendly advice: Get specific. Include yourself in the solution.) ☺
5. Mathis quotes Don Whitney who says, “There’s an element of worship and Christianity that cannot be experienced in private worship or by watching worship. There are some graces and blessings that God gives only in ‘meeting together’ with other believers.” The truth of that statement has been tested in over the last few months.
 - Do you agree or disagree with Whitney’s words? Explain your answer.
 - How can we encourage one another in worship even as we are still separate from one another?