

# Cleaning House

## DECLUTTER YOUR SOUL

*Craig Smith • April 25, 2021 • Replace*

Ice Breaker- What is one thing in your home that needs to be replaced?

*So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in Him, rooted and built up in Him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. (Col. 2:6-7)*

Pastor Craig said the verse above is a summary of the Christian life. Which of the continuing actions can you most relate to?

*Replacing the “gaps” with renewed spiritual practices...*

- **Pray with broadness** – *“And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.” (Eph. 6:18)*

Is it easier for you to pray with broadness or boldness? Why?

- **Study with strategy** – *“Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law...Your statutes are my delight; they are my counselors...My soul is weary with sorrow; strengthen me according to your word.” (Psalm 119:18, 24, 28)*

What strategy do you use when studying scripture? (When, where, how, how often, etc)

- **Journal the journey** – *“Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not His benefits-who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.” (Psalm 103:2-5)*

What effect does (or could) journaling have on your thoughts, feelings and faith?

- **Fast for movement** – *“There by the Ahava Canal, I proclaimed a fast, so that we might humble ourselves before our God and ask Him for a safe journey for us and our children, with all our possessions.” (Ezra 8:21)*

Have you used the practice of fasting? If so, what were the results?

- **Worship in stillness** – *“On my bed I remember you; I think of you through the watches of the night. Because you are my help, I sing in the shadow of your wings.” (Psalm 63:6-7)*

What method of worshipping God makes you feel closest to Him?

- **Listen with openness** – *“The purposes of a man’s heart are deep waters, but a man of understanding draws them out.” (Prov. 20:5)*

Who do you have that is a safe, wise Christian friend that listens to you? Who do you listen to?

‡ **Engaging these practices keeps us from reaching for our idols** – “Dear children, keep yourselves from idols.” (1 John 5:21)

Personal Question—Do you have an idol that you run to? What steps will you take to keep yourself from it?

*Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed – not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence – continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to His good purpose. (Phil. 2:12-13)*

Which one of the six spiritual disciplines will you begin or renew this week?