



Study Guide

Spiritual Formation - Sunday 17th January 2021

1. As you reflect over your life, what has helped you to grow spiritually?
2. What are the common themes or patterns amongst your small group?

“Christian spiritual formation is about the intentional communal process of growing in our relationship with God and becoming conformed to the likeness of Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit.”

James C Wilhoit

3. What do you think of this description of Christian spiritual formation (or discipleship)?

Please read Matt.5.6; Romans 12.1-2; Col 3.15-17; 2 Cor 3.17-18; Heb 12.1-3; John 15.5

4. How does the idea of being intentional in our relationship with God and with others feature in these verses? Why is it important?

Spiritual Formation as Apprenticeship to Jesus

Luke 6.40 *A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when they are fully trained will be like his teacher. The word 'disciple' literally means learner or follower. Jesus disciples were always with him. They were watching, learning, and listening. His disciples learned about him and from him in order that they could become like him. And as his apprentices, they could continue the work of the Kingdom that he established. And the same is true for his apprentices, like you and me, today.*

John 14. 12 *Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.*

5. How do you feel about being an apprentice of Jesus? How does it change your appreciation of the purpose and significance of your spiritual formation (or discipleship)?

Please read Rom 12.2; Luke 6.43-45

6. Why does Jesus prioritise first the spiritual formation of our heart and our mind rather than our behaviour or actions?

“If everyone trains someone else in what they know, the ministry of the church will grow rapidly”

7. How do you feel about being an apprentice who trains newer apprentices?