



Week Three

March 16, 2011

Intro

Life is busy...really busy... and it gets noisy too! So noisy and so busy that we often do not hear the things we really need to hear. When things get quiet, when they slow down, certain things can be seen and heard. When we see and hear things in the quiet they affect our actions, our hearts and our lives.

With the "Shh: Stuff is Happening" series we are going to be talking about those things that tend to be quieter. Quiet things aren't always boring, timid or wimpy... sometimes they can be the most powerful things in our lives.

So, we're gonna talk about the quiet things and how to make them part of our lives. The quieter things we will be focusing on are the "Quieter Virtues." These quieter virtues are discernment, innocence, authenticity, modesty, reverence, contentment and generosity. We will talking about these quieter virtues each week and how they can run wild in our lives.

Source

This series is using a book by Gregory Spencer called "Awakening the Quieter Virtues" as a major source of inspiration and guidance.

TONIGHT'S QUIET VIRTUE: *Innocence*

Scripture

- Matthew 10

¹⁶ "I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves"

- Romans 16

¹⁹ Everyone has heard about your obedience, so I rejoice because of you; but I want you to be wise about what is good, and innocent about what is evil.

- Galatians

¹ *It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.*

Discussion

1. *From week one... What are the quieter virtues? Are they really quiet? Why are they called quiet?*
2. *From last week, what is discernment? How would you describe it? How is it a virtue? What does attentiveness have to do with discernment?*
2. *What is innocence? How would you describe it?*
3. *How is innocence a virtue?*
4. *What is the difference between being naive and innocent?*
5. *What are some ways that innocence is misunderstood? How can we correct some of these misunderstandings?*
5. *How does innocence deal with evil?*
6. *Can you lose your innocence? Can you get it back? How?*
7. *What does innocence have to do with advocacy? How is advocacy the spiritual discipline for innocence?*
8. *What is one practical way you can live by the virtue of innocence?*