

AM I REALLY FREE?

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Dwelling Place Church
Vision: Manifesting Christ in
Many Ways to Many People

Matthew 14:22-33 NIV

The Failure of Nerve – Edwin Friedman – Family Systems Theory

The West is built around the myth of progress. The East – history is cyclical. The West – history is linear.

The West is regressing emotionally and relationally.

Edwin Friedman's Vicious Cycle

1. Reactivity
2. Herding Instinct
3. Blame Displacement
4. A Quick Fix Mentality
5. Lack of Well-Differentiated Leadership

We get the leaders we deserve.

"A Non-Anxious Presence" must be interjected right into the middle of this cycle.

How do we become a non-anxious presence?

One insight into this story – this is the second storm story in Matthew's gospel.

The Way of Jesus' Counter-Cycle

1. Slowing
2. Sabbath/Rest
3. Koinonia/Fellowship
4. Contemplative Prayer
5. Indifference/Freedom

"God walks 'slowly' because he is love. If he is not love, he would have gone much faster. Love has its speed. It is an inner speed. It is a spiritual speed. It is a different kind of speed from the technological speed to which we are accustomed. It is 'slow' yet it is lord over all other speeds since it is the speed of love."

– Three Mile An Hour God – Kosuke Koyama

Jesus' lifestyle – a wonderful rhythm of retreat and return.

"Jesus knew His limits well. Strange as it may seem, He knew what we conveniently forget: time must be properly budgeted for the gathering of inner strength and resolve in order to compensate for one's weaknesses when spiritual warfare begins." – Gordon McDonald

"Prayer: Relaxing into God's goodness." – Ronald Rolheiser

Contemplative & Charismatic Traditions – Both are built on the desire to experience God.

Freedom: you are free at an emotional level from the need of your life to go a certain way to be happy and at peace.

Revelation 1:18 NIV – I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.

"We should not fix our desires on health or sickness, wealth or poverty, success or failure, a long life or a short one. For everything has the potential of calling forth in us a more loving response to our life forever with God. Our only desire and our one choice should be this: I want and choose what better leads to God's deepening life in me." – Ignatius of Loyola

Staying vitally connected to the Holy Spirit will not only increase our peace but it will help us become channels whereby that peace can spread to others.

All inner healing is the removal of fear.

WELCOME!

If you have questions, please stop by the NEXT STEPS table in the foyer or look for a team member. If we can help you in any way, please email us at dwellinplacemovement@gmail.com.

Our strategy at DPC: Gather (Gatherings), Group (Connect Groups), Grow (Growth Phases), Give (Giving/Gifting Teams), Go (Outreach)

GROUP

**Sunday, December 5 + 19 -
Connect Group Night**

Our connect groups will be meeting all over the area this evening. If you would like to join a connect group, please visit the Next Steps table in the lobby.

GATHER

**Sundays in December -
Lights**

9:30a + 11:15a

Although Christmas is about more than the trees, decorations, and presents, Christmas lights are one of the best parts of the season. This series sheds LIGHT on the true meaning of Christmas. Join us all month long as we take another look at the Light of God from Isaiah 9:6.

GO

**Saturday, December 4,
5p - 8p - Christmas Jubilee
and Parade of Lights**

Join us as we serve the City of Woodstock at their annual Christmas Jubilee and Parade of Lights. We will have a tent with crafts for the kids, as well as a float in the Drive-Thru Parade. If you would like to serve at this event, please sign up now at the Next Steps table in the lobby.

GROW

**Thursday, January 6, 7p - 9p
Launch of our Winter
Semester of Growth Phases**

Our next session of Growth Phases kicks off on January 6th! Be sure to get signed up now at the Next Steps table.

GIVE

**"His Blueprint" Capital
Campaign - He Has Chosen Us!**

We encourage each of you to continue to ask God what He would have you give to our capital campaign!

Goal by June 2022

\$220,000

Commitment Levels:

One time Legacy Gifts

20K - Gold Legacy Gift

10K - Silver Legacy Gift

1K - Precious Stone Legacy Gift

Monthly Pledges

\$500, \$250, \$150, \$50

Did you know you can give via text? Just text any dollar amount to 84321 to give. You will follow a quick, self-guided setup process to tie your mobile phone to our church, your donor account, and a payment source. After that, donating is as easy as sending a text.