

"Pursuing After the 'An Geadh-Glas' [Holy Spirit] – Cage of Routine Pt 1"

NewSong Church Pastor David Haltom Sunday, June 4th, 2023

Today's Focal LifeText: "The **Wind*** (Holy Spirit / Wild Goose) blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit*." **John 3:8** * - The Greek for **Spirit** is the same as that for **Wind**



routine – defn. "a **usual** or **fixed** (_____ / _____ / _____) **way of doing things**; a personal – preferred _____ / particular _____ of doing things"

Not **all** routines are created _____, and **refusing** to closely _____ or _____ our routines can have a huge _____ or even _____ effect upon our lives, especially our spiritual faith lives!

Sadly, along our spiritual journey, many believers will trade in _____ that comes with a surrendered life journey for _____, _____ routine(s). If we don't disrupt or change our routine(s), we can start relying too heavily upon it, lose our _____ on the _____ of that routine, thereby allowing the routine(s) to "cage itself in all around us" ... thus creating a self-made prison cell which robs us of the freedom Christ has won for us for the adventures that arise out of Chasing (Pursuing) after the Wild Goose (Holy Spirit)!

"**Routine serves a** _____ and we rely on it to instill a sense of _____ and _____. However, **routine(s)** can also make us _____. It can make us **less** _____ and **more** _____. As **comforting** as it feels, there is _____ **in routine.**" ~ Dan Pysno, "The Danger of Routine," hammer.org, 3.20.2014

Routine _____ is a _____ **decision** to make **before Holy God!** **Isaiah 1:1-20** ^{NLT}

_____ routines become _____ routines if we don't ever _____ / _____ the routine. Sometimes we can rely too heavily on a particular routine and risk losing opportunities for _____ and the _____ and easily miss out on the _____ & _____ ways that God may desire to uniquely work in & through our lives!

A routine becomes " _____ " when it **encroaches on the** _____ and _____ we need to better _____ **Christ**, _____ **Him** & _____ **Him!**

"One of the **greatest dangers we face spiritually** is **learning** _____ and **forgetting** _____. Call it **familiarization**. Call it **habituation**. Call it **routinization**. Call it **what you want**. When we **learn** _____ and **forget** _____, we start going through the _____ (i.e. the routines) spiritually! ... We **stop creating the** _____ which God has ordained through our pursuit of His will and we **start repeating the** _____." ~ Pastor Mark Batterson, *Wild Goose Chase*, 2008, pp. 58
Philippians 3:13-14 ^{NLT}

The tendency to _____ the way we've always thought or **do something the way we've always done it** is called "heuristic bias" - It's **doing things** _____ even thinking about them (i.e. _____)!

Man-made _____ help the _____ become **routine**, and when this occurs, we **not only** _____ **spiritual adventure**, but we also **start** _____ the very _____ of our salvation in Christ Jesus!
Matthew 15:6 ^{Amplified}

If we aren't careful, we can _____ without thinking, take _____ without thinking, _____ without thinking, _____ without thinking and we can even _____ without truly thinking ... thus, the **Cage of Routine** will form / develop around us, thereby _____ **us as its prisoner!**

Staying in a Cage of Routine leads to inattentional _____*!

* - defn. "**the failure to** _____ a fully-visible, but _____ **object** because our attention was engaged on another task, event, or object"

"Why is it that we can (often) trust God to do the big things but not trust Him with the day-by-day affairs of our lives? We take these things for _____ because they are _____. And God is the ultimate _____. _____ happen every day. But we take them for _____ because they become _____." ~ excerpt from *Christian Book Summaries of Wild Goose Chase*, February 2009, pp. 3

Chasing the Wild Goose is a way to get back that divine _____ and keep our _____ **exciting, fresh** and **adventurous!** But that means coming out of the **Cage of Routine** which involves changing our routines, taking some risk and trying new things... the key is our willingness for true **Christ-led** _____ along our life journeys!

A³ (**A**ccept, **A**pply & **A**ct)