

DEEP



WIDE

SERMON NOTES



VINTAGE PRESS

Deep & Wide: Sermon Notes

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DEEP–RULE OF LIFE

DEEP & WIDE RECAP

- Overview: nola.vcmvmt.com/deepandwide
- Jesus modeled the rhythm of the Christian life—deep and wide.
- Vintage Church will grow deep by focusing on who we are becoming in Jesus and we will grow wide by focusing on who we are inviting into Jesus.

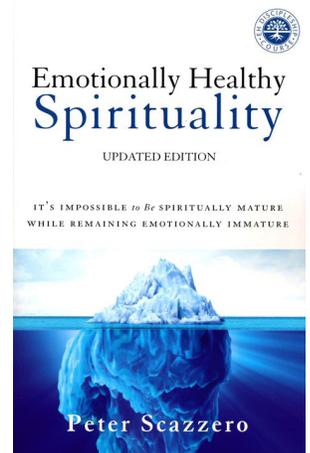
We can go deep when we utilize a rule of life to forget our past and focus on our future.

A rule of life is an intentional, conscious plan to keep God at the center of everything we do.

Peter Scazzero, *Emotionally Healthy Spirituality*, 196

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵Let those of us who are mature think this way, and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal that also to you. ¹⁶Only let us hold true to what we have attained.

Philippians 3:12–16



A RULE OF LIFE HELPS US

FORGET OUR PAST VISION (v. 12–13a)

- Paul's Past Privilege & Achievements

³For we are the circumcision, who worship by the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh—⁴though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Philippians 3:3–6

- Why did Paul forget his past vision?
 - Paul had been changed by Jesus
 - Paul had a new goal
- How do we forget our past vision?
 - Wrongs done
 - Achievements accomplished
 - When we forget, our former realities no longer determine our identity or purpose.

FOCUS ON OUR FUTURE VISION (v. 13b-16)

- What was Paul's new, future vision?—To know Christ

⁷But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith—¹⁰that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Philippians 3:7-11

- To know Christ is a relational goal that leads to life transformation.
- Paul's future vision required intentionality

The path of spiritual growth in the riches of Christ is not a passive one. Grace is not opposed to effort. It is opposed to earning. Effort is action. Earning is attitude. You have never seen people more active than those who have been set on fire by the grace of God.
Dallas Willard, "Live Life to the Full"

HOW DO WE FOCUS ON OUR FUTURE?

IDENTIFY GOD'S VISION

- Identity, gifts, talents, personality, virtues, roles, vocation
- Who does God want you to be?

- Why did God place you here?

NAME YOUR PRIORITIES

- Up–Upward to God
- In–Inward to Self
- With–Withward in Community
- Out–Outward in Mission

CREATE INTENTIONAL RHYTHMS

- Regular (e.g., daily, weekly, monthly)
- Seasonal (e.g., quarterly, yearly)

LIVE IT OUT

All those who want to be attentive must realize that formation begins with a framework of habits.

Justin Whitmel Earley, *The Common Rule*, 15

- What do you need to do or not do to keep God at the center of everything you do?

