

## The Spirituality of Happiness | Week #05

Signature of God | June 10<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers; but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night.

Psalm 1:1-2

### What's the Issue Anyway?

We all have different \_\_\_\_\_ of strengths.

The fundamental strengths available to all of us: \_\_\_\_\_ Strengths.

### Wisdom in Scripture about Character and Virtue?

1 Peter 1:3-8

The six Universal Virtues give \_\_\_\_\_ to the nature of God humanity shares. (3-4)

Virtue ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) grows by exercising character strengths. (5-7)

Strengths can be \_\_\_\_\_ with intentional actions. (8a)

Knowledge of Jesus without transformation is \_\_\_\_\_ . (8b)

The Christian concept of this would be using the Lord's \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ .

The higher purpose for our character and virtue is Jesus' call to \_\_\_\_\_ . (9-10)

\_\_\_\_\_ is the theological word for virtue and character building. (9-10)

### Don't Miss This!

Your \_\_\_\_\_ character strengths are God's \_\_\_\_\_ on your life.

This is a call to go \_\_\_\_\_ than emotional or consumeristic spirituality. (Psalm 139:13-14)

### What about my everyday, peacemaking life?

Wrestle with the question, " \_\_\_\_\_ ?"

Train for \_\_\_\_\_ by intentionally \_\_\_\_\_ your character strengths.

Use your character strengths as part of the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ church.

## How can this make me a better human and our world a better place?

We become more and more like \_\_\_\_\_: The Perfect Human.

We discover our \_\_\_\_\_ selves: the unique expression of God in this world we were created to be.

## What is God inviting you into today?

1. Take the VIA Survey on Character Strengths and Virtues
2. Get a group of friends together to read and discuss *The Power of Character Strengths* by Niemiec and McGrath
3. Think about where your character strengths could best be used as part of the Gathered and Scattered Church

## Thought Provoking Questions for Groups or Personal Reflection

1. What talents, skills and interests do you have?
2. How would you answer the question, "Who am I?"
3. Look at the six universal virtues classified by VIA. Would you agree that these seem to represent the image of God we see throughout the scripture? Could you imagine a situation where a person or culture would not hold one of these as a positive to strive for?
4. I Peter 3 talks about supplementing your faith. Does this strike you as strange? Isn't faith alone enough? Why do you think the writer sees faith as needing supplemented? What are the dangers of supplementing faith, if any?
5. Take the VIA Survey (It's free at [viacharacter.org](http://viacharacter.org)). What are your signature strengths? Were you surprised?