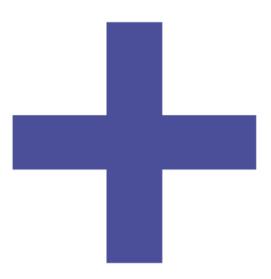
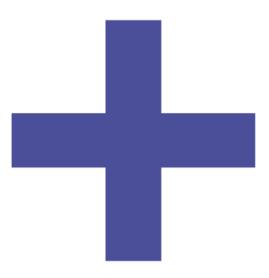
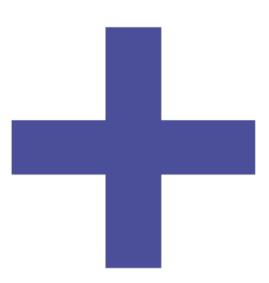
# Practicing the Way of Jesus



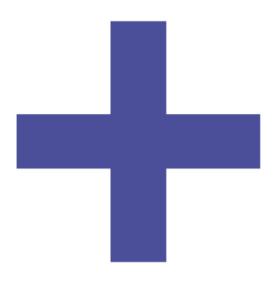
### "talmidim"



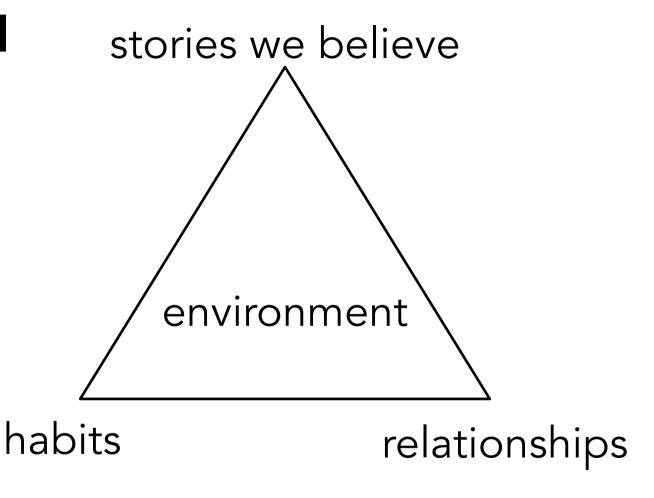
- 1. Be with Jesus
- 2. Become like Jesus
- 3. Do what Jesus did



If we want to experience the **life** of Jesus we need to adopt the **lifestyle** of Jesus.

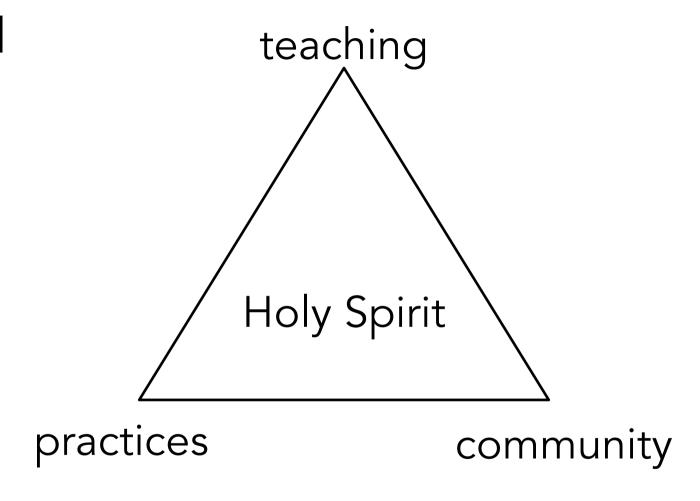


## Unintentional spiritual formation



"Spiritual formation in the Christian tradition is a process of increasingly being possessed and permeated by such character traits as we walk in the easy yoke of discipleship with Jesus our teacher."

# Intentional spiritual formation



#### Mark 1:14-15

<sup>14</sup> After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. <sup>15</sup> 'The time has come,' he said. 'The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!'

#### **Romans 12:2**

<sup>2</sup> Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

"The process of spiritual formation in Christ is one of progressively replacing destructive ideas and images with the images and ideas of Jesus himself".

### **Curt Thompson**

"Neurons that fire together wire together — in other words, neurons that repeatedly activate in a particular pattern are statistically more likely to fire in that same pattern the more they are activated".

"The process of spiritual formation in Christ is one of progressively replacing destructive ideas and images with the images and ideas of Jesus himself".

#### Matthew 7:24

<sup>24</sup> 'Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock'

See also: Luke 8:15, John 13:17, James 1:23

#### James K.A. Smith

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"What we love in our hearts has a far greater influence on what we do than what is in our head".

#### James K. A. Smith

"Because we are what we want. Our wants and longings and desires are at the core of our identity, the wellspring from which our actions and behaviour flow. Our wants reverberate from our heart, the epicentre of the human person. Thus Scripture counsels, "above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it" (Proverbs 4:23)...

Discipleship, we might say, is a way to curate your heart, to be attentive to and intentional about what you love. Discipleship is more a matter of hungering and thirsting than of knowing and believing. Jesus' command to follow him is a command to align our loves and longings with his – to want what God wants, to desire what God desires, to hunger and thirst after God and crave a world where he is all in all - a vision encapsulated by the shorthand 'the Kingdom of God'".

### Joseph Hellerman

"Spiritual formation occurs primarily in the context of community.... long term interpersonal relationships are the crucible of genuine progress in the Christian life. People who stay grow. People who leave do not grow... it is a simple but profound biblical reality that we both grow and thrive together or we do not grow much at all".

"The disciplines are activities of mind and body purposefully undertaken, to bring our personality and total being into effective cooperation with the divine order. They enable us more and more to live in a power that is, strictly speaking, beyond us, deriving from the spiritual realm itself".

#### 2 Corinthians 3:16-18

<sup>16</sup> But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. <sup>17</sup> Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. <sup>18</sup> And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

