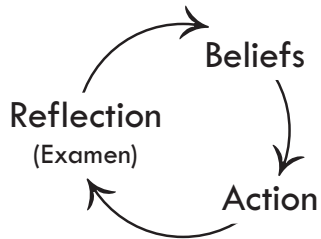


AARON NIEQUIST

THE
ETERNAL
CURRENT

How a Practice-Based Faith
Can Save Us from Drowning

As we grow in Christ, the spiral gets tighter and tighter, sewing action and contemplation into a seamless garment and drawing us closer to the heart of God.



Notes

Introduction

1. Martin Luther King Jr., quoted in John Craig, “Wesleyan Baccalaureate Is Delivered by Dr. King,” *Hartford Courant*, June 8, 1964.

Chapter 1: Losing My Religion and Finding the Kingdom

1. Wikipedia, s.v. “Plymouth Brethren,” last modified January 18, 2018, 09:55, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plymouth_Brethren.

Chapter 2: The Birth of the Practice

1. Our team was small, including Steve Carter, Rhianna Godfrey, Kellye Fabian, Mindy Caliguire, Lori Shoults, and a few others.
2. For more on this, see Simon Sinek, *Start with Why: How Great Leaders Inspire Everyone to Take Action* (New York: Penguin, 2009).
3. For more on this, see James K. A. Smith, *Desiring the Kingdom: Worship, Worldview, and Cultural Formation* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2009).

4. For more on this, see Dallas Willard's writing on spiritual practices in his book *The Spirit of the Disciplines: Understanding How God Changes Lives* (San Francisco: HarperSanFrancisco, 1991).
5. From the set of guidelines used at the Practice to set forth what practice-based faith consists of.

Chapter 3: Swimming with the River

1. N. T. Wright, *Surprised by Hope: Rethinking Heaven, the Resurrection, and the Mission of the Church* (New York: HarperOne, 2008), 184.
2. Wright, *Surprised by Hope*, 192.
3. Wright, *Surprised by Hope*, 193.
4. John Ortberg, *The Lord's Prayer: Praying with Power* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2008), 20.
5. Richard Rohr, *Everything Belongs: The Gift of Contemplative Prayer*, rev. ed. (New York: Crossroad, 2003), 29.
6. Brother Lawrence, *The Practice of the Presence of God* (New Kensington, PA: Whitaker, 1982), 24.
7. Do you have a godly spiritual director? If you want to learn more, I highly recommend you explore this Spiritual Directors Network: <https://evangelicalspiritualdirectorsnetwork.com/home>.
8. T. S. Eliot, "The Dry Salvages," in *Four Quartets* (Orlando, FL: Harcourt, 1971), 39.

9. If you want to explore the Examen more deeply, check out “A New Liturgy No. 6: The Examen,” a recorded thirty-minute liturgy that Father Michael Sparough and I created, www.anewliturgy.com/no-6-.

Chapter 4: Church as a Gymnasium (Part 1)

1. M. Robert Mulholland Jr., *Invitation to a Journey: A Road Map for Spiritual Formation* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1993), back cover.
2. To explore the practice and theology of spiritual formation, a good place to begin is <https://renovare.org>.
3. See James K. A. Smith, *You Are What You Love: The Spiritual Power of Habit* (Grand Rapids, MI: Brazos, 2016).
4. John Witvliet, conversation with the author, July 23, 2013.
5. “Confession of Sin,” *The Book of Common Prayer and Administration of the Sacraments and Other Rites and Ceremonies of the Church* (New York: Church Publishing, 1979), 79.
6. John Perrine wrote a short paper titled “The Story of Practice Throughout the Scriptures” specifically for this book. So very helpful! The rest of the paper is posted at www.aaronniequist.com. He recently finished his MDiv at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School and will eventually

pursue a doctorate of theology. He played a central role on the Practice leadership team (2014–16) and currently works full time in the discipleship department at Willow Creek Community Church.

7. Barbara A. Holmes, *Joy Unspeakable: Contemplative Practices of the Black Church* (Minneapolis: Fortress, 2017), 19.
8. Sandra Van Opstal, “Sandra Van Opstal on The Next Worship,” interview by Joan Huyser-Honig, Calvin Institute of Christian Worship, April 7, 2016, <https://worship.calvin.edu/resources/resource-library/sandra-van-opstal-on-the-next-worship>.
9. For more on this, see Sandra Maria Van Opstal, *The Next Worship: Glorifying God in a Diverse World* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2016).
10. Ian Morgan Cron, “Prayer,” June 9, 2011, video, 4:43, www.youtube.com/watch?v=qYHLwAIDxtM.
11. Thomas Keating, *Open Mind, Open Heart: The Contemplative Dimension of the Gospel* (New York: Continuum, 2002), 136.

Chapter 5: Church as a Gymnasium (Part 2)

1. Paraphrased from a quote in “Barth in Retirement,” *Time*, May 31, 1963.
2. Ian Morgan Cron (sermon, the Practice, South Barrington, IL, June 1, 2014).

3. David E. Fitch, *Faithful Presence: Seven Disciplines That Shape the Church for Mission* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2016), 26.

Chapter 6: Sunday Is Not the Main Event

1. To read the story of Martin Luther's conversion to *sola fide*, see Roland H. Bainton, *Here I Stand: A Life of Martin Luther* (Nashville, TN: Abingdon, 2013), 50–51.
2. Dallas Willard, "Kingdom Living," interview by Andy Peck, May 2002, www.dwillard.org/articles/printable.asp?artid=92.
3. Peter Scazzero, "Session 8: Go the Next Step to Develop a Rule of Life," Emotionally Healthy Spirituality Course, DVD transcript, www.emotionallyhealthy.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/EHS-Course-DVD-Transcripts-2017-.pdf, 2.
4. Ruth Haley Barton, "Interview with Ruth Haley Barton Regarding Sacred Rhythms," Transforming Center, July 28, 2011, www.transformingcenter.org/2011/07/interview-with-ruth-haley-barton-on-sacred-rhythms.
5. Dallas Willard, *The Spirit of the Disciplines: Understanding How God Changes Lives* (San Francisco: HarperSanFrancisco, 1991), 56.
6. Richard Rohr, "Nothing Is Excluded," Center for Action and Contemplation, June 17, 2015, <https://cac.org/nothing-is-excluded-2015-06-17>.

Chapter 7: We Need Everybody

1. Richard Rohr, *Everything Belongs: The Gift of Contemplative Prayer*, rev. ed. (New York: Crossroad, 2003).
2. David G. Benner, *Human Being and Becoming: Living the Adventure of Life and Love* (Grand Rapids, MI: Brazos, 2016), 118–19.
3. “3625. oikoumené,” Bible Hub, <http://biblehub.com/greek/3625.htm>.
4. John Armstrong, conversation with the author, March 9, 2016; see also John H. Armstrong, *Your Church Is Too Small: Why Unity in Christ’s Mission Is Vital to the Future of the Church* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2010), 32.
5. Margaret Rose, “What Is Ecumenism . . . and Why Does It Matter?,” November 11, 2013, video, 2:46, www.youtube.com/watch?v=xMAQb2DyWVI.
6. Ian Morgan Cron (lecture, New York City, March 27, 2015).
7. See “The Learning Pyramid,” https://siteresources.worldbank.org/DEVMARKETPLACE/Resources/Handout_TheLearningPyramid.pdf.
8. Richard Rohr, *Immortal Diamond: The Search for Our True Self* (London: Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, 2013), xxii.

9. Pope Francis, “Pope Explains Ecumenical Dialogue,” February 26, 2017, video, 2:30, www.youtube.com/watch?v=gLjHKbyc_r4.

Chapter 8: We Can’t Do It Alone

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2. Peterson, “Spirituality for All the Wrong Reasons: Eugene Peterson Talks About Lies and Illusions That Destroy the Church,” interview by Mark Galli, *Christianity Today*, March 4, 2005, www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2005/march/spirituality-for-all-the-wrong-reasons.html.
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4. Soong-Chan Rah, *The Next Evangelicalism: Freeing the Church from Western Cultural Captivity* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2009), 153.
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8. “3-Way Listening” and many other resources available at www.onelifemaps.com.
9. Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *Life Together* (Minneapolis, MN: Fortress, 2015), 75.
10. Bonhoeffer, *Life Together*, 92.
11. Ronald Rolheiser, *The Holy Longing: The Search for a Christian Spirituality* (New York: Image, 2014), 83.
12. Information from Jerusalem Greer is used by the express permission of Jerusalem Greer. All rights reserved.

Chapter 9: For the Sake of the World (Part 1)

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2. “About,” Gravity, <https://gravitycenter.com/learn/about>.
3. Phileena Heuertz, *Pilgrimage of a Soul: Contemplative Spirituality for the Active Life*, rev. ed. (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2017), 186.
4. Bethany Hoang, “Deepening the Soul for Justice: An Interview with Bethany Hoang,” interview by Laura Merzig Fabrycky, The Washington Institute for Faith, Vocation, and Culture, July 2, 2013, www.washingtoninst.org/5355/deepening-the-soul-for-justice-an-interview-with-bethany-hoang.

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Chapter 10: For the Sake of the World (Part 2)

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Benediction

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