

City Church Network - Tuesday Fellowship

March 31, 2020

Streams of the Christian Faith #1 - Introduction

facilitated by Wim Codington (cell: 423.505.6411; email: wimcodington@gmail.com)

Bible passages examined:

- I Corinthians 12
- I Peter 4:8-11

Thoughts and ideas shared:

- Looking forward to studying the streams of the faith with you! Our study was inspired by ideas Wim Codington received from Phil Dillingham and Wade Jones, pastors at Priest Lake Christian Fellowship (PLCF). These men, in turn, were inspired by Richard J. Foster, who is the author of *Streams of Living Water*. PLCF's website has a helpful document¹ about practical elements of each stream, which we will examine during our own study.
- We will split teaching between Sarah Cearley, Phil Dillingham, and Wim Codington over the next 6 weeks, covering the following streams:
 - evangelical
 - charismatic
 - holiness
 - sacramental / incarnational
 - social justice
 - contemplative
- For each of the streams, we will attempt to discuss the following points:
 - Historical background (when, why, and how the stream emerged)
 - Theological themes
 - Present-day manifestation in denominations and traditions
 - Spiritual gifts highlighted
 - How we can practice it in our daily living
 - Potential dangers to avoid

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https://www.plcfantioch.org/dir/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/how_to_practice_each_of_the_streams_of_faith.pdf



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Thoughts and ideas shared (continued):

- We will seek the following practical outcomes from our study:
 - Personal healing from past church hurts we may have experienced
 - Deeper love for the beauty of the body of Christ
 - Deeper passion for unity of the body
 - Deeper ability to offer love and understanding to others who may have experienced hurt from the body of Christ
 - Deeper freedom to love and make disciples of the lost (those not yet in Christ)
- I Corinthians 12
 - Christ has a single body, empowered by a single Spirit
 - The body has been manifested in different generations, cultures, traditions, and individuals
 - The concept of the unity and diversity of the body of Christ does not just apply at the individual local church level; it also applies across denominational, cultural, and generational expressions in the body of Christ.
- Exhortations to guide our study:
 - Encouragement to see the streams positively
 - Encouragement to give thanks for the good experiences you have had in your background
 - Encouragement to acknowledge the pain and cost caused by each stream
 - Be careful to confess your own sin and acknowledge your own pain; be careful not to confess the sins of others (rather, prayer for deeper revelation of the truth for all); maintain a posture of humility; be on the lookout for pride in your own heart
 - Ask yourself these questions:
 - What has God uniquely given me as a result of my background and my tradition that I can offer to the body of Christ?
 - What “feasts have I missed” (Phil Dillingham) that I may want to participate in for my own growth and benefit and journey closer to Christ?
 - Where am I deficient in my ministry and need to pull others in that are strong where I am not?

