

CHAPTER SEVEN

Magnetic Living

The Big Picture ...

We've learned about holy discontents. We've read about how to develop them and keep them going. But now the rubber meets the road. What will we *do* with that knowledge? In chapter seven, Hybels talks about what it looks like to live in a completely different state, where following your passions and focusing outward lead to an amazingly energized, fruitful life.

Prepare

Read chapter seven in *Holy Discontent* and look over the verses below.

Ice-Breaker

What is the biggest risk you've ever taken? It can be funny, deep, or somewhere in between, just share the story!

God's Words

Read: Matthew 6:25-34**Do Not Worry**

²⁵ "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? ²⁷ Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?

²⁸ "And why do you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. ²⁹ Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. ³⁰ If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? ³¹ So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'" ³² For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. ³³ But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. ³⁴ Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow

will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Discuss

1. What encourages you in this passage?
2. What challenges you or raises questions in your mind? (Talk about them as a group)
3. What can you learn about God from this story?
4. What application points do you see for your life in this Scripture or from the discussion so far?

Hybels' Words

In this chapter, Hybels talks about two different "states" in which we can live:

Normal State: You're almost entirely self-absorbed. You have a reactive approach to life and try to maintain the status quo, no matter how unbearable it may be. "When we accept the world as it is, we deny our ability to see something better, and hence our ability to *be* something better. We become what we behold." (p. 118)

Fundamental State: Where people care so much about getting results that they begin to move and breathe in a totally different realm. They operate with intentionality. They act with massive doses of enthusiasm and persistence. They surrender their ego because the cause simply can't afford their pride. They open themselves up to any and all new ideas and forms of input - regardless where those suggestions come from.

"People who operate in a "fundamental" state of mind concentrate at higher levels and focus more intensely because the goal they're pursuing demands it. They take risks they wouldn't normally take ... because they have to - there's too much at stake not to! Their creativity kicks up a notch. Their energy soars. Their passion swells." - *Holy Discontent*, pp. 118-119

Discuss

1. Do you know people living in each of these "states"? Describe them.
2. Where are you living most of the time?*
3. Is there a connection between Jesus' call for us to "not worry" and our entry into this "fundamental state"? What do you see?

4. What would it take to spend more time in your fundamental state and less in everyday life? How do you get there? How does anyone get there?
(Refer to the stories of Bob Quinn and Jude in the book if you need to begin with some concrete examples.)

**Note: On page 128, Hybels says this: "Obviously, though, we can't live in the fundamental state all the time. We have to eat. We have to sleep. We have to pay bills and take out the garbage. Every once in a while, we have to pull in for a pit stop and take time to refuel. But what we can do is to train our minds and our emotions to visit that "fundamental" place ... with greater frequency."*

THE TWO STATES OF LEADERSHIP

The Normal State	The Fundamental State
You feel <i>unusually</i> overwhelmed by your <i>usual</i> workload.	You possess a deep reservoir of enthusiasm and energy.
Your concerns are mostly self-focused.	You concentrate on the needs of the mission and those fighting for it.
Your ego gets in the way of the cause.	You lead with a surrendered ego.
You lead out of obligation or compulsion.	You lead from your original passion.
Your leadership vision seems fuzzy.	You experience clarity of vision.
You wonder if you can impact the current state of affairs.	You are willing to take risks.
Your decision-making stance becomes reactive.	You are confident, especially regarding decision making.
You'd rather maintain the status quo than risk effecting change.	You're open to change, if it means taking ground for the cause.

Your Words

We pick one thing from *Holy Discontent* to talk about each week, but what stood out to you?

1. What did you like best?
2. What challenged you or did you disagree with?

3. What did you learn that opened your eyes to a new side of God?
4. What do you need to apply from the reading?

Close

Don't forget to take time to share prayer requests!