

**BEGIN AGAIN:
BEGIN AGAIN WITH PEOPLE**
01/22/2017 • Troy Dean • Matthew 22:36-40



BIG IDEA

A rhythm of spiritual practices will transform your life.

OUTLINE

VISION:

The heart of spiritual life is to do everything with Jesus, in his name—the way he would do it in our place, knowing he is actually present.

We can only live in Jesus' name one day at a time.

It doesn't mean doing new things.

It means doing things you're already doing, but in new ways—in Jesus' name.

The Wrong Gauges

We often use the wrong gauges to measure spiritual health and maturity.

BOUNDARY MARKERS are external, superficial signs or practices that set one group apart from another.

God is not interested in some abstract thing called your spiritual life.

God is just interested in your LIFE.

He wants you to be filled with love—love for him, and love for people.

The Right Gauge

- Training vs. Trying
- Training is an indispensable ingredient for pursuing spiritual transformation.

Training

- We will have to train to be loving.
- The purpose of such activities is not to demonstrate how spiritual we are.
- Training activities exist to help us grow in love for God and other people and to become more like Christ

Training to be Loving:

Listen

- Use the phrase, "Tell me more."

Speak words of love

- "Full of grace and truth"

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are some of the ways we measure spiritual maturity or health? Are these healthy gauges? Why or why not?
2. How does Matthew 22:36-40 redefine how we measure spiritual health?
3. What is your biggest barrier to becoming more loving? How can your small group help you in this area this week?