

GENIUS



Genius of Discipline May 29, 2022

Speaker: Pastor Joshua Symonette

Scripture: Daniel 6:3-10

Sermon Overview: When most people think of genius, I am sure their mind goes to outputs. We think about what someone produces. But what if most of what genius is has more to do with inputs; the things we don't see. I believe discipline, as an input over time, is a force multiplier. And when that discipline is focused on submitting to God, he takes care of the outputs, which is beyond what we could ever do on our own.

Sermon Series Questions:

1. **Discover your unique genius:** Everyone has strengths and weaknesses. What are your perceived disadvantages or weaknesses? What are your strengths and gifts?
2. **Develop your unique genius:** We can learn to leverage our weaknesses by partnering with God to cultivate compensatory skills. What compensatory skills do you feel God might be cultivating in you?
3. **Deploy your unique genius:** In what ways could your disadvantages be viewed as opportunities for your good and the good of others?

Sermon Specific Questions:

1. What did Daniel risk by obeying what the Lord had put on his heart? Why do you think he risked it, given that he could have done something different - like close the windows?

What is the Lord asking you to obey, though it may seem like there's a convenient (and perhaps logical) option for not obeying? What are you risking? What could be on the other side of your obedience that the Lord is trying to get you to step into?

2. Discipline has a multiplying factor. In what areas are you experiencing success with discipline? What has fostered that success?
3. In what area has your passion started to wane? Is the Lord asking you to persevere and develop grit in this area? Find a scripture that stirs up hope in your heart and meditate on this scripture when you feel discouraged.
4. When an unusual hits your life, what is your usual and do you deviate from your usual (Josh Mayo)? How did Daniel tether his prosperity and protection to his spiritual discipline? How did this become his "usual" response when the unusual hit his life?
5. The Genius of Discipline is of full submission. What are you holding onto for yourself that you don't want to let go of?

Digging Deeper:

- Additional Reading: *Golden: The Miraculous Rise of Steph Curry* by Marcus Thompson; *Good to Great: Why Some Companies Make the Leap and Others Don't* by Jim Collins; *A Long Obedience in the Same Direction: Discipleship in an Instant Society* by Eugene H. Peterson

Practical Application:

- Join a small group ncc.re/groups to discover ways you can use your talents and passions to serve the various church campuses in-person and online.
- Make a Bible reading plan a daily discipline and connect with NCC Daily. (Download the [NCC app](#) to find our plan).
- Join our Main Upper Zoom online prayer group on Wednesdays and our new Upper Zoom Prayer Pods on other days. Main Upper Zoom: Wednesday mornings, 7:14am ET ncc.re/upperzoom. Upper Zoom Prayer Pods meet at different times and days during the week. Go to ncc.re/prayerpods to sign up.