

SWHW MASTERMIND: #QUARANTINECLARITY

Somer Phoebus

All quotes are from Somer Phoebus unless otherwise noted.

Now about your love for one another we do not need to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love each other. 10 And in fact, you do love all of God's family throughout Macedonia. Yet we urge you, brothers and sisters, to do so more and more, 11 and to make it your ambition to lead a quiet life: You should mind your own business and work with your hands, just as we told you, 12 so that your daily life may win the respect of outsiders and so that you will not be dependent on anybody. - 1 Thessalonians 4:9-12

We should be ambitious, but not for our own glory, but for the gospel and the glory of God.

Do not allow fear to prevent you from being able to learn from what God is doing.

Do not miss the opportunity for you to learn to draw closer to the Lord during this time.

Sometimes it takes a mess for us to understand that our Father is working.

Look at what was vs. what is vs. what will be.

Consider a buffet vs. a fine dining establishment:

Buffet:

- It's your responsibility to get the food
- Buffets are exhausting. (You and your spouse never sit down at the same time: someone needs to go to the bathroom, someone is somehow already ready for ice cream, someone else needs food, someone has to watch the purse, etc.)
- You get food you don't even like because you don't want to miss out.
- There are lots of mediocre chefs in the kitchen.
- You leave feeling sick.

Fine Dining:

- Food is brought to you.
- Fine dining is relaxing.
- You get to order exactly what you're craving most - nothing more, nothing less.
- There is one, trained chef in the kitchen.
- You leave feeling satisfied.

Is your life more of a buffet or a fine dining establishment?

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Pre-Pandemic Questions to Evaluate:

- how tired were you?
- were you living your life in a mind-less grab-and-go way?
- was there quality to your day?
- were you satisfied at the end of the day?

You were not meant to live exhausted or mindlessly.

Is your urgency for an experience or is it for the gospel?

"My goal is to know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death." – Philippians 3:10

Are you going to live for the betterment of the Kingdom or just to check something off your bucket list?

In an effort to live to not waste your life, you might risk missing the whole point of it.

We've got to stop trying to deviate from God's calling on our lives by adding too much to it.

Stop adding to His call on your life.

Paul asked for prayer that he would use his time wisely in prison.

Making it your ambition to live a quiet life shouldn't be complicated. What complicates our lives is when we try to do more than what we've called to.

It's ambitious to live a quiet life. It's exciting. It's adventurous.

We must look culture in the face and say, "I will not follow you. I will not be influenced by you. I will not feel bad because I don't look like you. And I will not feel guilty raising children who don't do what you tell them to do."

We have a chance to walk out of this season being in the world, but not being of the world.

Pre-pandemic, what day was busiest for you? Write down everything you had going on that day. Then, write down what that day looks like during the pandemic. Then, evaluate what you want your schedule to look like on that day post-pandemic.

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swHw version of Marie Kondo: Instead of asking what sparks your joy, look at your schedule and ask - what glorifies God? That's what gets to stay.

Ask your husband and your kids: What do you like about right now? Make sure those things stay part of your routine moving forward.

For whoever needs to hear this: side hustles are not required. One job is enough.

Most of us probably need to let go of something. Don't let this opportunity pass you by.