

Building an Orthodox Life

Catechism series Part II

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Day 1 -Session I

- Introduction
- Our Mission Churches
- The Criteria to be empowered
- Who is missing (please raise your hand)
- **Take a break.....**

Day 1 -Session-II

- Why is the generation missing
- how to be the **Chosen of God**

Day-2

The second day is titled *“Simple solutions to complex problems”*

- Soup, Prayer, and Mysteries
- Good habits to practice

Making the Perfect Soup





So far, so good!



WHAT IF WE WERE TO ADD A SMALL AMOUNT OF **PUTRID** INGREDIENT



Just the smallest amount, A tiny sliver of dead rat tail.

*You will never know it's in there
.....right?*



YUM!

Bonne
Appetit!

Lesson:

Even if you are putting mostly awesome quality ingredients into your life..... some things will ruin it and destroy all the work we are doing to encounter God.

Some things are incompatible with the Christian life!
They will destroy all hope of encountering God.

Examine your life and figure out What things should not be there!!!

Remove Bad Ingredients or?

List of things you may not want in your life?

- Porn
- Sexuality (any outside marriage)
- Most movies
- Books
- Drugs
- Alcohol ?
- Cannabis
- Others.....

- Are all putrid ingredients
- Be especially careful what you put into your eyes
- The eyes are the lamp of the body.....
- You cannot unsee some things

Most people fail to know God because they keep one foot in the world and one foot in the Church, wanting both.

There is no life in Christ without prayerFocus on this first!!!!

- Have a prayer rule
- Practice the Jesus prayer
- You should have a prayer rope
- You should learn to pray the services instead of watching them
- If you can't pray - read the Psalms
- In your prayer life you should give preference for thanksgiving and interceding for others
 - you can use a prayer rope for all of these
- Don't multitask in prayer!
- He usually reveals Himself in an underwhelming way, softly, quietly with a whisper, and a still small voice
- Persistence is the key! Must travel thru the desert.
- Don't be easily offended

Other Things to Focus on

Rewards and punishment?

- Giving away authority
- Must learn balance
 - How->Mostly from recovering from imbalance
- Put first things first, reevaluate often!
- Make sure what you say you believe matches how you act
- You get to write the book, do it deliberately, with divine help.
- Recognize the choices you are making as choices
- I can have a good attitude
- I can love
- I can “lean in” when nobody else does or it seems like everyone disappears but me
- I can be a source of encouragement for the modern-day martyrs who reject the materialism of the world
- I can work hard
- I can contribute, more than most with JOY in my heart

- Comes from a desire to know,and be know, **To love and be loved**
- Nobody but God can fill that burning desire.....Not even fishing.
- I do know that God loves us
- I do know He sends the most unlikely people to teach us, we need humility to see them

Humility is not thinking less of yourself, it is thinking of yourself less

- I know He sends the truth to **offend us, to confront us, to correct us.**
- Be satisfied entirely with what He blesses you with
- Do not question the authority placed over you
- Learn to see struggle and suffering as a close friend, as a **direct gift**
- “Lean in” with people who are struggling, “lean in” and share their struggle
- I often find myself unable to help, afraid, insufficient, yet I continue to “lean in” and love
- Even in scandal, even if sin.....I hope someone will “lean in” for me
- Seek the greater gifts

Only a few of you will be blessed to financially support the church, it is a gift of God!!!

Be a missionary in your own home and in your own church