

Contribution

Stretch Habit

Daily: Invite God to show you where He is already at work in the renewal of all things, and where He may be inviting you to partner with Him.

Take some time to notice where there is chaos or disorder in your own heart, the physical spaces you are in, your relationships, and your community by pondering the following questions. The question is not “what should I achieve?” but rather, “what needs cultivating?”

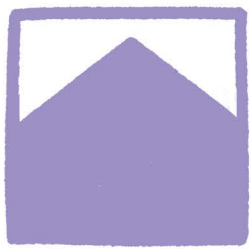
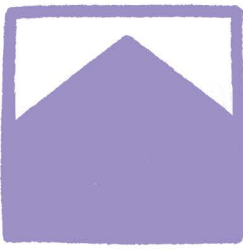
- Self** - Where am I experiencing chaos, confusion or unrest internally? What patterns in my inner or outer life - thoughts, ambitions, or habits - are out of alignment with God’s kingdom purposes? Is there an area God might be inviting me to yield to Him and His ongoing work of renewal in my life?
- Spaces** - Where do I notice clutter, disorganization, or neglect in my surroundings? Are there spaces I avoid or feel stressed by? How are shared spaces impacting others around me? How can I move from a consumer to a contributor in these spaces?
- Relationships** - Are there any relationships that feel chaotic, tense, strained, or neglected? Are there any misunderstandings, unresolved conflicts, or unspoken needs God might be bringing to mind? How might God be wanting to use me to bring peace, clarity, or restoration in these relationships?
- Community** - Where in my neighborhood, workplace, local community, or world do I notice chaos, neglect, or brokenness? Are there people, groups, or spaces that feel overlooked or ignored? What problems or unmet needs in my community stir up discomfort or urgency in my heart? How can I offer my skills, presence, or resources to bring about restoration and renewal in my community?

Weekly: Identify one specific area (self, spaces, relationships, community) where God is inviting you to partner with Him in the renewal of all things, and take one step to bring shalom to that particular area.

Ask God what might be holding you back from actively seeking shalom in this area. Invite Him to fill you with courage, clarity, and discernment.

Below are a few examples to help you get started...

- Self** - Invite God into moments where you typically find yourself impatient and keep a visual cue to prompt you to pause, pray, and breathe.
- Spaces** - Organize, clean, and help make your shared office space more welcoming.
- Relationships** - Take one step to resolve an area of tension or misunderstanding in a strained relationship.
- Community** - Volunteer your time and skills with a local nonprofit that is meeting a need in your local community.



Contribution

Starting Habit

Daily: Bring shalom to one thing around you.

Shalom means peace. We often reduce this to the absence of conflict. However, the biblical understanding of shalom (peace) is a state of wholeness, harmony, and total flourishing. One way that we can partner with God in the renewal of all things is to lean into small, ordinary opportunities to bring order to chaos, to mend what is broken, and to cultivate spaces where others can flourish.

At the start of your day, before beginning your work (paid or unpaid), pray this simple prayer:

Lord, align who I am becoming with what I am building today. Help me partner with You in renewing all things.

Take time to consider the following questions with God...
*Where can I bring order? Where can I bring peace today?
Where can I bring clarity?*

Possible ideas:

- Clean or organize a shared space
- Fix something broken
- Clarify a confusing system
- Encourage a struggling coworker or classmate
- Initiate a hard conversation you've been avoiding
- Wash your car, or someone else's
- Take care of a neglected plant or an outdoor garden space
- Volunteer a skill in your local community
- Join someone in their work, or collaborate on a project

After you do that one thing, take some time to reflect. Prayerfully ask the following questions: *What did I notice was happening internally? Did God reveal anything about my motives or heart posture? How does this simple act tie in with God's kingdom purpose of bringing renewal of all things?*

Weekly: Prayerfully reflect back on where you saw order and disorder in the last week, and invite God to lead you into the week ahead.

Without judgement, take some time with the Lord to honestly assess the last week...*Where did I partner with Him in bringing order this week? What opportunities did I miss? Is there something or someone God is bringing to mind that I can move toward this week?*