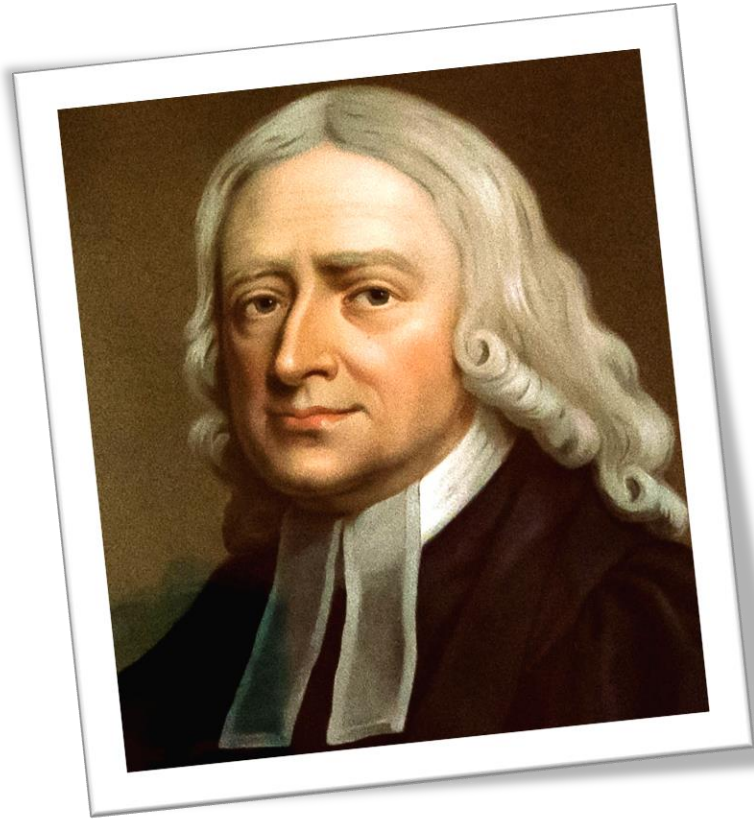




**Learning  
to live  
a well ordered life**



- ❖ What is it?
- ❖ Some assumptions
- ❖ The main ideas
- ❖ Practical things
- ❖ Practical outcomes



John Wesley (1703 – 1791)

It was a common saying among the Christians in the primitive Church,

***“The soul and the body make a man;  
the spirit and ----- make a Christian”***

# WHAT IS IT?

## Question:

What do we mean by **a well ordered life**?

## Answer:

A life that is characterised by the peace of God, righteousness and spiritual fruitfulness.

# SOME ASSUMPTIONS

1. The church does not have the testimony in the world that it should.
2. Spiritual growth in Christians is usually very slow at best.
3. Most of us know we are not living the life we should.
4. Many of us fear commitment and obedience.
5. Profound change will not happen in us without our cooperation.
6. A spiritual life will not be a normal life.
7. **The yoke of Christ is easy and His burden is light.** (Matthew 11:30, 1 John 5:3)

# THE MAIN IDEAS

A. Personal **discipline is necessary** if we are to grow in godliness, wisdom and fruitfulness.



**A. Discipline**

B. To be effective we need to **focus on today**, and to live today purposefully and attentively.



**B. Today**

C. We can be extensively equipped and transformed **right where we are** in the course of our ordinary life.



**C. Here**

**A. Discipline**

**B. Today**

**C. Here**

➤ **Discipline is a road, not the destination**

- Should you pay attention in class?
- Should an athlete train?

➤ **Discipline of the body (God's creation)**

- Develop good habits - it gets easier
- Our body can't be the boss, but it has its needs

➤ **Discipline of the mind**

- Fill it with good things (Philippians 4:8)
- Keep it active - thinking, learning, memorising



**A. Discipline**

**B. Today**

**C. Here**

DECEMBER 2022						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

➤ **We can only serve God today**

- *Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things.*

*Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.* (Matthew 6:34)

➤ **Today is in your face – face it**

- Today's **duties** are enough for today
- Today's **victories** and **failures** are remembered

➤ **Living today with purpose and expectancy**

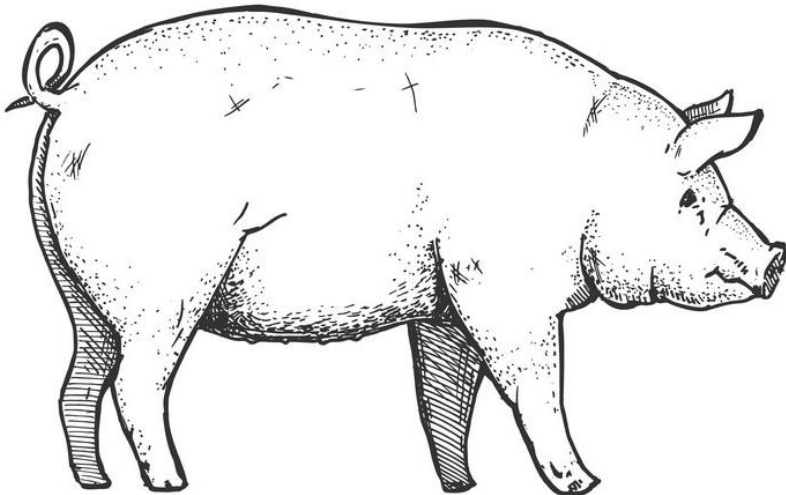
- Faithful, watchful and **thankful**
- The end of **boredom!**



**A. Discipline**

**B. Today**

**C. Here**



➤ **I am where God has put me**

- We didn't choose our parents
- The Lord Jesus worked as a carpenter...

➤ **What we are at home is what we really are**

- Small things expose the heart attitude
- Faithfulness when not seen is precious

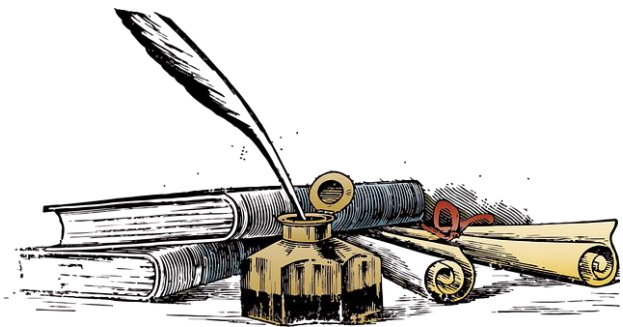
➤ **A pig with lipstick is still a pig**

- Pigs, donkeys and galahs at home...
- *God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ*

(Romans 2:16)

# PRACTICAL THINGS

1. Begin each day well – without rush and before God
2. Focus on choices, specially the small ones
3. Write down what you have read, learned and discovered
4. Learn to pray persistently for people close to you
5. Actively seek to learn more – from the Scripture and other people
6. Strive to keep a clear conscience before God and man
7. Look away from yourself – what can you give or do for others?



# MORE PRACTICAL THINGS



Handle it once



Don't eat too much or sleep too little



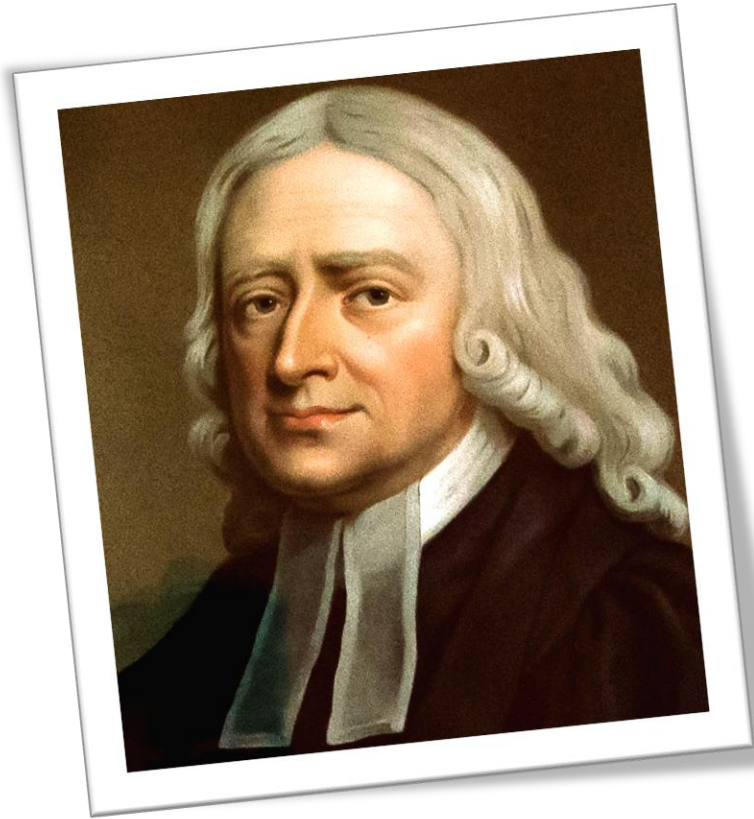
Don't plan to be on time  
- you'll be late

# PRACTICAL OUTCOMES

What is meant by **a well ordered life**?

A life that is characterised by the peace of God, righteousness and spiritual fruitfulness

- ✓ Humility and repentance
- ✓ Thanksgiving and worship
- ✓ Truth and peace



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It was a common saying among the Christians in the primitive Church,

***“The soul and the body make a man;  
the spirit and **discipline** make a Christian”***



**Choose  
to live  
a well ordered life**