

Find Your Greatness Event Notes *(submitted by AJ Funaro)*
Presentation by Jonathan Fanning, Dynamic Catholic (Music by Kevin Heider)
Saturday September 8, 2018 at St. Mary Church, Branford, CT

There are 4 Habits of “Highly Engaged” people (in their Faith). These habits bring Peace.

1. **PRAYER** – Things we may pray for or about include:
 - a. Gratitude – for People in our Lives, our Gifts, our Talents, Nature (e.g. Seasons), etc.
 - b. Awareness – about the Good and Not So Good Choices we have made
 - c. Significant Moments – for Guidance in what these SM’s mean in our lives and our decision making. Ask for direction and LISTEN!
 - d. Peace – for peace in our lives
 - e. Freedom – to Pray for Anything
 - f. Others – for anyone you know, or don’t know, who may need uplifting
 - g. Conclude with the Lord’s Prayer

2. **STUDY** – You can Give Only What You Have, so Study and Become Overflowing with your Faith. Ideas include:
 - a. Read the Bible and Imagine Yourself in each Character
 - b. Pick a Favorite Saint and Dig into his/her life. Let them “show you” how they lived. Role Models.
 - c. Pick a Favorite Author, such as:
 - i. Thomas Merton – *The Seven Storey Mountain*
 - ii. Peter Kreeft – *Socrates Meets Jesus, Between Heaven and Hell* (also a film)
 - iii. Bishop Robert Barron – WordonFire.org (emails, videos, etc.)
 - iv. Mathew Kelly – *Dynamic Catholic*
 - d. Pick a Favorite Topic (perhaps one you are questioning)
 - i. Research it
 - ii. Wrestle with God about it

3. **GENEROSITY** –
 - a. Prayer – “God, my money is your money. What do you want me to do with it?”
 - b. Deep Giving – Try doing for One what you wish you could do for everyone
 - c. Pick a Target Giving Goal

4. **EVANGELIZE** – “HPGCTG” Help People Get Closer to God. Do this Not by Telling someone to e.g. “go to church”, but by SHARING:
 - a. Share Resources – Books, Quotes, Stories, etc.
 - i. Ask – “If I gave you a book, would you read it? And we can discuss.”

Some other things of note from the talk:

- *Bad Habits are Easy to Form, Hard to Live with; But Good Habits are Hard to Form, and Easy to Live with*
- *Prayer Always Makes a Difference.... In the Person Praying!*
- *God says, Bring me what you have, and I will multiply it (great tie to loaves and fish)*
- *Pray daily for a random stranger (great thought)*
- *86,400 seconds in a day. (if we pray 10 mins a day, that’s only 600 seconds... less than 0.1% of our day)*
- *Tell me who your Role Models are and I’ll tell you who you are Becoming*
- *The most powerful note in all of music is the silence just before the last Hallelujah in Handel’s Messiah (kevinheider.com) (Ahh, the power of silence)*
- *You can Only Give What you Have (Are)*