Journal 1

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This week has been a fantastic week for my spiritual and mental health. Sunday was a great day and had some awesome opportunities to serve and get pored into through volunteering at the youth center, then a little in the café. It’s always amazing to see the beginning of a new sermon series, Jonah is something I always had a fascination with however never fully understood the story. On Sunday even though it was just chapter one I learned multiple things I never realized about that story. One of the main things I learned was the fact that Jonah had such a hatred towards Nineveh which is the reason he wanted to get out.

Hearing that opened my eyes and I have meditated on it this entire week. How you see someone that is preaching to so many people and God specifically calls him to the place he had a hatred for, and not just a dislike, he was distraught because he knew God wouldn’t destroy the place. That really challenged me this week to do things I usually have a hatred for, I am not a very social person, I enjoy some social encounters, however very much dislike long social events or big events. So this week I made it a challenge that whenever someone asked me to do something I had to say yes. By doing this I wasn’t forcing myself to change my personality, but rather allowing God to use me in ways I otherwise would never be in.

The rest of the week flew by, I recently started my job in Digital Marketing and am still learning, this week I was to a point where I finally knew enough and was able to lead a couple projects as well as put in different suggestions for future designs and formats! For my very quiet and non-confrontational personality this was a huge win! How I am finally at the beginning of my dream career and started to get my opinion and voice heard spoke volume to me.

For the classes side of things, I have been trying my best to work as far ahead as possible, so on Monday I got everything done until today (Friday) causing the rest of the week to be lazy when I could have studied or worked farther ahead. This created a slothfulness that I need to work on in the next couple weeks, it is easy for me to work ahead and get it done, but once I start slacking its incredibly hard to get out of that slump. So, it’s about finding that balance.

Some challenges I have encountered being here at James River College is mainly what I talked about previously, getting out of the apartment and spending time with other people. Not only for the social aspect put the relational part too. I understand that developing relationships are key to different leadership parts of my life, but the challenge is forcing myself to participate in those events. My challenge for myself is to keep saying yes to social outings, to an extent. Essentially forcing myself to grow in my relationships with these people that I will be surrounded by for the next 2 years!

In conclusion, it has been a great week for me, and my challenge is to keep saying yes to social events to develop relationships with friends!