



The Scholé Way with Christopher Perrin

Lecture II: The Practice of Scholé in Setting Apart Time and Space

Outline:

In this lesson, Dr. Christopher Perrin explores the importance of setting apart time and space for restful learning. Drawing from *The Scholé Way*, classical traditions, and liturgical rhythms, he emphasizes how educators can cultivate an atmosphere of contemplation and remove distractions to foster deep learning.

*"We need, as Lancelot Andrewes says in his book *The Intellectual Life*, to prepare a zone of silence for ourselves."*

The Importance of a Restful Disposition

- Scholé begins with the teacher's own restful mindset
- The necessity of silence and retreat for attentiveness
- Overcoming the frantic pace of modern education

Creating a Set Apart Space for Learning

- The etymology of *contemplate* (*con + templum*) as a sacred space
- Why modern classrooms and homeschools should be more like a home
- The role of beauty and order in shaping a learning environment

Historical Models for Educational Spaces

- *Nature* – Learning outside fosters wonder and attentiveness
- *The Garden* – A cultivated space that invites contemplation
- *The Table* – Education as nourishment and conversation
- *The Museum* – A gathering of great ideas and works of art
- *The Cathedral* – Lifting students' hearts and minds heavenward
- *The Monastery* – Rhythms of study, prayer, and hospitality



Applying Liturgical Rhythms to Education

- The Sabbath principle: One in seven as a pattern for restful learning
- How elements of worship (greeting, recitation, contemplation, benediction) can inspire classroom structure
- Seeing the home as a "little church" in its educational mission

Traditional Scholarly Practices to Recover

- *Praying the Hours* – Rhythmic pauses for prayer and reflection
- *Keeping a Commonplace Book* – Collecting and meditating on great ideas
- *Lectio Divina* – Slow, contemplative reading of texts
- *Visio Divina* – Studying great works of art for deeper understanding
- *Ora et Labora* – Balancing study, manual work, and reflection

Removing Distractions to Foster Contemplation

- The need for an intentional, distraction-free learning environment
- The impact of smartphones on student focus and well-being
- *The Anxious Generation* by Jonathan Haidt as a case for phone-free schools