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The Scholé Way with Christopher Perrin

Lecture 15: Learning to See, Hear, and Taste in Restful Education

Outline:

In this lesson, Dr. Christopher Perrin explores how attentive perception—seeing, hearing, and tasting—forms a foundation for restful learning. Drawing from poetry, Scripture, and classical thought, he discusses how cultivating attentiveness leads to contemplation and wisdom.

The Meaning of Seeing, Hearing, and Tasting in Education

- The importance of perception in restful learning
- The Greek word anthropo meaning "turned upward"
- The natural world as an invitation to contemplation

Gerard Manley Hopkins and the Art of Perception

- Reading and analysis of "Pied Beauty"
- Hopkins' ability to see beauty in nature and creation
- The importance of delighting in the details of the world

Learning to See by Learning to Draw

- Josef Pieper on drawing as a way to train perception
- Hopkins' own practice of sketching as a means of seeing deeply
- The connection between art, attention, and education

Teachers as Sighted Guides

- Luke 6:39-40: "Can the blind lead the blind?"
- The responsibility of teachers to see in order to lead students
- Teaching as an act of revealing beauty, truth, and goodness

The Role of Rest in Perception



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- The necessity of pausing in order to see, hear, and taste
- Josef Pieper on how music quiets the soul and invites contemplation
- The difference between active learning and contemplative learning

Recovering the Ability to Savor and Linger

- The challenge of modern education's emphasis on covering material
- The call to slow down and delight in learning
- Contemplation as an act of glorifying things simply because they are