



The Scholé Way with Christopher Perrin

Lecture 7: The Virtue and Harmony of Scholé

Outline:

In this lesson, Dr. Christopher Perrin explores the role of *scholé* in cultivating virtue and achieving harmony in education. Drawing from classical and Christian traditions, he examines how *scholé* fosters intellectual and moral virtues, contributes to a balanced life of study, and aligns with the proper ordering of loves as articulated by Augustine.

“Scholé is the removal of distraction such that we are actually able to observe and see reality.”

Scholé as a Foundation for Virtue

- *Scholé* as a disposition, atmosphere, and activity in education
- The necessity of harmony in learning and virtue formation
- Socratic and classical perspectives on virtue as the health of the soul
- Aristotle’s view of *scholé* as the soil where virtue is cultivated

The Cardinal Virtues and Their Role in Learning

- *Prudence* – The ability to perceive reality accurately and make wise choices
- *Justice* – The virtue of fairness and giving what is due in learning
- *Temperance* – The moderation of pace, content, and study habits
- *Fortitude (Courage)* – The resolve to overcome academic challenges

The Intellectual Virtues in Education

- *Prudence* in selecting what to study and how to allocate time
- *Justice* in giving study the right amount of attention
- *Temperance* in avoiding laziness and excessive ambition
- *Courage* in persevering through academic difficulties



The Role of Love in Learning

- Love as the root of intellectual pursuit (*we study what we love*)
- Studiousness and attentiveness as expressions of love for truth
- The importance of fostering moments of *ecstasy* in learning
- The connection between *scholé*, love, and being drawn into study

The Harmony of Scholé and Active Learning

- Augustine's concept of ordering loves and applying it to learning
- Avoiding distortions of *scholé* (excessive contemplation vs. superficiality)
- The balance of contemplative (*intellectus*) and active (*ratio*) learning
- Practical applications: following a Sabbath principle (one out of seven portions of time for restful learning)

