



This Old House

Doug Davis

Questions to consider, discuss or journal.

1. Your home is where you live everyday, just as your spiritual life is where you live everyday. What does it feel like to come home? What does your spiritual life house look like? Could it use rebuilding? When was the last time you renewed your faith? Does your spiritual house reflect God and Christ?
2. Why renovate your spiritual life? What are the costs and risks associated with renovating? What are the costs and risks in not renovating?
3. The Author shares that he found strength, insights, help and, a sense of belonging from members of his faith community, similarly to Elijah, as one of the seven thousand in Israel choosing not to worship Baal. He was not alone. Identify people in your life who could provide similar supports to you during your spiritual renovation.
4. How does a stagnant spiritual life effect your relationship with Jesus and God? Do you have the courage to change and renovate your spiritual life to re-engage with God and Jesus and improve your relationship with them?
5. Do you ever question your sense of belonging to your faith community?
6. The author shares how his spiritual house began to develop within the Christadelphian faith and stories of the people who influenced it. What were the main influences in building your house of faith? Can your spiritual house stand on its own apart from the influences of your faith community?
7. What are your reflections on the Parable of the Dying Church? Does this describe your church?
8. What inconsistencies do you see in your faith community? What would it look like to start addressing these inconsistencies with honesty? What would it look like if your spiritual community held a visioning session and as a group, looked critically at your current state and towards the future asking what do you want to look like as an ecclesia in three years?
9. Does your current environment support asking questions and new perspectives and practices?

10. The author reflects that there comes a time during the renovation process where you may opt to stay and do the necessary work to make your home more livable or discover that leaving and starting over fresh somewhere new may be the only option. This is a challenging crossroad to find yourself at. Have you ever been at this crossroad in your faith?

11. It is irresponsible homeownership to not care for your home, just as it is irresponsible not to examine your faith. How can you make tending to your faith a regular practice? How can you support members of your faith community in renovating their spiritual houses too?