



REDISCOVERING **WORK**

Unity Through Authenticity

PEPPERDINE | Human Resources

Pepperdine University affirms

That God is

That God is revealed uniquely in Christ

That the educational process may not, with impunity,
be divorced from the divine process

That the student, as a person of infinite dignity, is the
heart of the educational enterprise

That the quality of student life is a valid
concern of the University

That truth, having nothing to fear from investigation,
should be pursued relentlessly in every discipline

That spiritual commitment, tolerating no excuse
for mediocrity, demands the highest standards of
academic excellence

That freedom, whether spiritual, intellectual,
or economic, is indivisible

That knowledge calls, ultimately,
for a life of service.



Our Mission

Pepperdine is a Christian university committed to the highest standards of academic excellence and Christian values, where students are strengthened for lives of purpose, service, and leadership.

SHALOM

It is a vision of human flourishing. Shalom means humans living in right relationships with God, fellow humans, nature and self—and in taking delight in such relationships Shalom involves finding meaning in our experiences and celebrating the actualizing of creation's potentials. Shalom involves recognizing ourselves as humans in terms of that place where God's goodness finds its answer in our gratitude. Shalom is an ethical community where all the members have a full and secure place in the community. As such, it embraces a "non-abandonment" of the creation while asking us to take a "redemptive view point."

ADOPTING A HOLY DISSATISFACTION

Shalom as a command asks us to respond—now—to the cries and tears of human suffering: the pangs of the hungry, the demoralizing effect of no jobs despite long searches, the anguish of those abandoned to refugee camps for generations, the squalor of inner cities, the pollution of modern industrial society, the fear and danger facing those not accepted by the community, the places of war around the globe, inhumane working conditions, the domination by the rich of the poor, the list can be long.

A CALL TO ACTION

Shalom as a command is a call for us to struggle to bring about human flourishing in our community, our society, our globe, precisely because so much of humanity cries out, suffers, is wounded. The messianic light pulls us forward to action, in the world, to help bring about human flourishing, suggesting that we cannot remain indifferent to the plight of those around us. To be a Christian is to be under a certain uprising from a messianic pull, where we see the tears of God behind the wounds of the world, where we meet a wounded God behind the injustices that exist around the globe. Shalom is a call to non-indifference, here, now—it cannot wait.

[Clarence W. Joldersma | Educating for Shalom]

ON AUTHENTICITY

Have you ever stopped to marvel at how amazingly unique you are? I don't mean in an inflated sense, as in our delusions of grandeur, but in the mere odds of it all. At the time of writing this, there are more than 7.5 billion people in the world, and none of them is quite like you. From the color of your eyes, to the shape of your nose, from the way you walk to what you dream about, you are a complex combination of features that exists nowhere else in time and space than where you are. No one ever has been or ever will be the you that you are. That is remarkable.

More importantly, have you ever stopped to wonder why? Is God just really bad at creating humans, unable to create the perfect specimen but resigned to keep trying? Hardly. We know, of course, that God does not make mistakes, that even what we might perceive as defective or evil is still the work of God's perfect act of love and capable of returning that love. We are as God wanted us to be created, and with God's help, we can end up what God destined for us to become. The fact that we are unlike any other being in the history of the world is not a matter of defect, but of great honor. Being created in the image and likeness of God and yet totally unique, we are able to reflect God to the world in a way no other creature can. There is something about each one of us – in the way we were created and what is asked of us—that is particularly our own.

How wonderfully amazing is that? God loves us so much that, not only did he make us a creation unto ourselves, but in doing so, he gifted us with a particular way to return that love that is fit for no other person. In simply being our true selves, doing nothing more than becoming the unique person that God created us to be, we give glory to God and follow our own particular path of holiness. That's it! We are not to imitate the lives of the saints or do what others define for us; our path to holiness is not made by scrupulously following that path of a holy person who has gone before us. What is asked of me may not be asked of you. What you are capable of may not be what I am capable of. Each and every one of us has been created differently, for God's own glory, and we each have our own path to follow.

I love Pope Francis's words in this regard he writes, "We should not grow discouraged before examples of holiness that appear unattainable. There are some testimonies that may prove helpful and inspiring, but that we are not meant to copy, for that could even lead us astray from the one specific path that the Lord has in mind for us."

[Casey Cole, OFM | Letting Go]

CONTEMPLATIVE MEDITATION

You may sit and listen to your breathing; with each breath you take, you are living your one-less-breath-to-breathe-life. You are melting like a candle. You are fleetingly passing away. And very, very, very soon now, you won't be here. But who you are in the fleetingness of time will eternally be subsisting in the love of God forever and ever and ever and ever and ever.

[Jim Finley | The Living School]

WHAT IS THE VIRTUE THAT IS YOURS TO CULTIVATE?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Hope (confidently expecting my desired outcome to come to fruition) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Hospitality (the friendly and generous reception and entertainment of guests, visitors, or strangers)
HOW WILL PEOPLE FEEL WHEN YOU CULTIVATE THIS VIRTUE?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Optimistic » Encouraged » Appreciative » Courageous » Joyful » Neighborly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Accepted » Valued » Welcomed » Like they belong » Cared for » Like this is their home » Wanted » Honored
WHAT ACTIONS WILL YOU TAKE TO CULTIVATE VIRTUE?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Set varied levels of outcomes to achieve (some that can be clearly attained and others that are loftier) » Embrace my faith and spirituality » Be willing to adapt when things do not go as expected » Move through challenging or negative situations rather than dwell on them » Create an achievement board to remind myself of all I have overcome in the past 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Greet them » Ask their opinion » Smile » Invite them to coffee » Anticipate what they need, and help them without being asked » Be fully present to the person in front of you » Spend time with people that is beyond transaction » Walk someone to their destination
HOW WILL THE GOOD FRUIT FURTHER PEPPERDINE'S MISSION?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Elevate the University's presence and impact around the globe by believing in the growth and capability of Pepperdine » Grow the University's resources to advance Pepperdine's mission » Strengthen employees' and students' potential and see it realized 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Code of Ethics (Each person is treated with dignity and respect) » Strategic Plan (strengthen and deepen a community of belonging) » Continue Pepperdine's history of inviting people from all walks to join our community
WHAT CAN REMIND YOU TO CULTIVATE VIRTUE?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Something going not as expected » Conversations with colleagues about their challenges » Trying something new » Theme Tower 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Tables, doors, chairs » Calendar reminder » Meeting new people
HOW WILL YOU KNOW WHEN YOU ARE SUCCESSFUL?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Completing difficult tasks to add to my achievement board » When my team responds with optimism in the face of adversity » When I successfully manage my attention toward things that uplift me, while not avoiding, but knowing negativity does not add to my spirit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » When those around me feel welcomed and open to discuss what is on their hearts and minds » When someone remarks on the friendly and inviting community that exists at Pepperdine » Seeing others embrace a mindset of hospitality from my examples.

WHAT IS THE VIRTUE THAT IS YOURS TO CULTIVATE?	
HOW WILL PEOPLE FEEL WHEN YOU CULTIVATE THIS VIRTUE?	
WHAT ACTIONS WILL YOU TAKE TO CULTIVATE VIRTUE?	
HOW WILL THE GOOD FRUIT FURTHER PEPPERDINE'S MISSION?	
WHAT CAN REMIND YOU TO CULTIVATE VIRTUE?	
HOW WILL YOU KNOW WHEN YOU ARE SUCCESSFUL?	

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