



EPISODE 1:

The Voice of God Within

“What am I supposed to do with my life? What would you, God, have me do with this moment, right here, right now?”

We ask ourselves these questions as we recognize that God has placed us here for a purpose and called us to live it with courage.

The story of **Etty Hillesum**, a young woman who died in Auschwitz during World War II, shows us that a life of courage in the face of great darkness is the choice to live with love and joy, to cling to beauty when it would be so easy to hate, and to be generous when it would be easier to withdraw.

We are made for happiness and freedom, and these ultimately consist of desiring what God desires for our lives. Making decisions with knowledge and wisdom and staying within the guardrails of the natural law helps us to find the happiness we are made for.

Our conscience is that deepest center within us, the inner sanctuary, where we encounter the voice of God. As we listen to God’s call, we use the virtue of prudence to guide our decisions. Prudence helps us to know what our choices are and how to respond in the complexity of the moment.

Prudence is the virtue that allows us to participate in God’s Providence and rule our own lives well.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

What are some seemingly small choices that you face that require great courage? What makes them courageous? How does this help you understand the “little way” of holiness?

SUGGESTED READINGS

- *Etty Hillesum: Essential Writings*
- *Etty Hillesum: An Interrupted Life and Letters from Westerbork*
- *Gospel of St. John*, Chapter 1
- Dante Alighieri, *The Divine Comedy*

Notes:
