

# Influence Ministries

## WHY AM I HERE?

### LESSON 4

TITLE: DISCIPLESHIP.

In this lesson, we're going to talk about DISCIPLESHIP.

You were created to become like Christ.

God doesn't just want you to know Him, he wants you to become like him.

This has been God's plan for you since the beginning of time.

*Romans 8:29 TLB*

*From the beginning God decided that those who came to Him and all along He know who would, should become like His Son.*

God wants you to become like Him.

How do you do this?

You become Godly.

You develop Christ-like characters.

*Ephesians 4:15 The Message*

*God wants us to grow up... like Christ in everything.*

Spiritual growth is a lifelong process.

It's all taken from His word. The word of God.

Without the Word, you'll starve yourself to death.

It is our map to becoming like Him.

You can't think like Jesus if you don't know how He thinks.

You can't love like Jesus if you don't know how He loves.

You can't learn to serve like Jesus served if you don't know how He served.

So God uses the bible to develop the character of Christ in all of us.

He also uses people to help us grow. That's what fellowship is all about.

*Romans 8:28 NIV*

*In all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have need called according to His purpose.*

I'm going to use everything in your life for the purpose to make you like Christ.

God doesn't cause all things, but He works in all things to develop us.

God use trouble to teach us to trust Him.

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Trails are situations designed by God to draw us closer to Him.

They are meant to help us, not hurt us.

*Romans 5:34 TLB*

*Problems and trials... are good for us, they help us learn to be patient. And patience develops strength of character in us and helps us trust God more each time we use it, until finally our hope and faith are strong and steady.*

God is more interested in what you are than what you do.

Every problem has a purpose.

The purpose for problems is to make you like Jesus Christ and to build character in your life.

*Mark 14:34 TEV*

*The sorrow of my heart is so great that it almost crushes me.*

This is how Jesus responded to pressure.

*Mark 14:36 NLT*

*Father he cried out, everything is possible for you. Please take this cup of suffering away from me. Yet I want your will, not mine.*

If you're going to be like Jesus, He's going to take you through Gethsemene.

He's going allow you to go through trouble.

But, if you're going to be like Jesus, you're going to have to learn how to trust Him.

In eternity, God is going to reward you for your troubles.

*2 Corinthians 4:17 NIV*

*Our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.*

The reward is greater than the pain. And you will be rewarded one day.

What you're going through now in life is temporary, but you're going to be reward for your character in eternity.

The 2nd tool God uses:

God uses temptation to teach us to obey Him.

God can use our temptations to be more like Him.

The bible says He cannot tempt us, but He uses them to mold us.

Every temptation involves a choice. To do good, or to do evil.

Temptation is always a choice.

Trials are situations designed by God to draw us closer to Him.

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Temptations are situations designed by the Devil to draw you away from God.

We go through both.

Jesus was tempted.

*Matthew 4:1 NIV*

*Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the Devil.*

It's not a sin to be tempted.

*Hebrews 4:15 CEV*

*Jesus was tempted in every way that we are. But He did not sin.*

Temptation and sin are two different things. The sin is how you respond to temptation.

Everybody is tempted.

*1 Corinthians 10:13 NLT*

*The temptations in your life are no different from what others experience.*

Satan is going to try to make you feel like you're the only one being tempted.

You're not the only one... according to the bible.

Temptation is our test for our love to God.

What do I love more:

Money or God.

Power or God.

Comfort or God.

Reputation or God.

It's about who you love the most.

You need to know this about temptation.

*1 Corinthians 10:13 NLT*

*And God is faithful. He will not allow the temptation to be more than you can stand. When you are tempted, He will show you a way out so that you can endure.*

Will I choose to obey God, or will I choose to obey temptation.

Review:

God uses trouble to teach me to trust Him.

God uses temptation to teach me to obey Him.

There is a 3rd thing God uses to make us like Him.

God uses Trespasses to teach us to Forgive.

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Trials are situations designed by God to draw us closer to Him.  
Temptations are situations designed by the Devil to draw you away from God.  
Trespasses are situations designed by other people to hurt us.

We live in a broken world. People sometime hurt you intentionally and unintentionally.

*Mathew 6:12*

*Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who have trespassed against us.*

This is probably the toughest step in being like Him.

When other people hurt you.

*Luke 23:34 CEV*

*Jesus said, Father, forgive these people. They don't know what they're doing.*

If you're going to become like Christ you have to learn to forgive.

How do you learn to forgive? You can't learn to forgive unless somebody hurts you.

Forgiveness is one of the primary qualities of God.

Forgiveness is Godly.

God wants us to forgive, that's why He allow hurts in our life to make us like Him.

Forgiveness is a tough lesson to learn.

Two keys to help you:

Remember that God has forgiven you.

*Ephesians 4:32 CEV*

*...forgive others, just as God forgave you because of Christ.*

Remember that God is in control.

He sees when people hurt you and God keeps good books.

*Genesis 50:20 NCV*

*You meant to hurt me, but God turned your evil into good to save the lives of many people, which is being done.*

God use trouble to teach us to trust.

God uses temptation to teach us to obey.

God uses trespasses to teach us to forgive.

*Romans 8:17 MSG*

*We go through exactly what Christ goes through. If we go through the hard times with Him, then we're certainly going to go through the good times with Him.*