



Rev. Dr. Jeremy Mahood

Sunday October 11th 2015

#4 Discipleship:

You Were Created To Become Like Christ

Small Group Notes

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

Romans 8:28 (NIV)

Share an insight from your reading of chapters 15-21 of "What on Earth am I Here For?" this week.

God doesn't just want you to KNOW about Jesus Christ, He wants you to become LIKE Jesus Christ. This has been His plan for you since the beginning of time!

THREE TOOLS GOD USES TO HELP US GROW

God uses _____ to teach us to _____ Him.

Trials are situations designed by God to draw us closer to Him. They stretch our faith and grow our character. In fact Romans 4:3,4 (TLB) says "Problems and trials...are good for use—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."

- Every _____ has a _____.

Mark 14:35 (NLT) says, "'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!'" Jesus surrendered to God's plan. God is wanting you to surrender to His plan, too, and trust Him in times of trouble.

God uses _____ to teach us to _____ Him.

Temptations are situations designed by the devil to draw us away from God. God does not cause temptation, or does not tempt us to do evil. It is not a sin to be tempted. But every temptation involves a choice: do evil or obey God. In obeying God, we become more Christlike.

God uses _____ to teach us to _____ ,

Trespasses are situations designed by other people to hurt us. God's Word says "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who have trespassed against us."

Matthew 6:12 (KJV)

- Remember that God _____.

- Remember that God _____.

*God uses trouble to teach us to trust. God uses temptation to teach us to obey.
And God uses trespasses to teach us to forgive.
He does all these things to make us like Christ.*

Discovery Questions:

1. God uses trouble to teach us to trust. What problem in your life has brought about the greatest growth in your character?
2. God uses temptation to teach us to obey. What lesson do you think God is trying to teach you?
3. God uses trespasses to teach us to forgive. What is God teaching you about forgiveness right now?
4. To think about: It's never too late to start growing. What progress would you like to see in your spiritual growth one year from now? What can you do today to start moving toward that goal?

Prayer Time:

Take turns praying these Bible verses for yourself or for your group.

Romans 8:28 (NIV)	Romans 5:3-4 (TLB)
2 Corinthians 4:17 (NIV)	1 Corinthians 10:13b (NLT)
Matthew 6:12 (KJV)	Ephesians 4:32 (CEV)

For example, "God wants us to grow up...like Christ in everything." (Eph. 4:15 MSG)
You can pray "God, please help me to grow up like Christ in every part of my life."
or "God, please help all of us to grow up like Christ in every part of our lives."

For this week:

~If you have been able to serve together as a group this week, encourage each other by giving your feedback. How did you reach others' needs? What did your service teach you about yourself? If you haven't yet worked together on a project, confirm plans to serve together in the next couple of weeks. How can God use you?

~Read chapters 22-28 in "What On Earth Am I Here For?" before your next small group meeting.

~Keep sharing with the world what you are learning by placing a favourite quote from the book or Scripture verse on your Facebook page, or by tweeting with the hashtag #PDL, or even bringing it up in conversations!

~This week's theme verse is such an encouragement. Write it out and place it in a spot you will see every day.

