

simple minded

thinking & loving like Jesus



Part 3: Following Jesus, Together

APPETIZER: Review & Refocussing

1 Corinthians 2:16

Cluttered, complex, counterproductive spirituality...

- Following a Religion.
- Following the Bible.
- Following Faith

DINE IN: How to Follow Jesus

2 Peter 1:3-15

HOW DOES GOD ANSWER?

- Internally, through impulse and intuition.
- Externally, through circumstance.
- Scripturally, through learning.
- Relationally, through others.

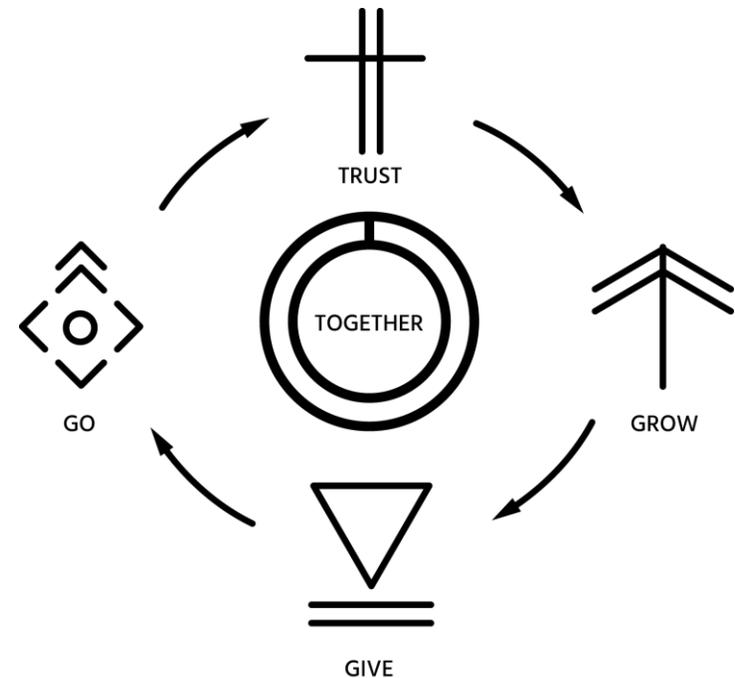
Galatians 4:19; 1 Timothy 4:7-8; Colossians 1:27-29;
Hebrews 10:24-25; 1 Peter 4:10

SOME SPIRITUAL GROWTH CHURCH MOVEMENTS

1. Monastic Movement – Living fully for God
2. Protestant Reformation – Authority of Scripture
3. Radical Reformation – Jesus is central
4. Keswick Movement – Laying hold of the “deeper life” / “higher life”
5. Holiness Movement – Entire sanctification is possible
6. Pentecostal Movement – Baptism of the Spirit empowers
7. Deliverance Movement – Freedom through Christ
8. Inner Healing – Wholeness and healing from our brokenness
9. Discipleship Movement – Mentoring, Application, Accountability
10. Spiritual Direction – Learning to lean on Jesus with help

Hebrews 5:11-14; 1 John 2:20 and 27

TAKE OUT: Your second biggest commitment ever



HOMEWORK: Home Church Reconnect (CIRCLE ONE)

Continue your daily homework from week 1 &/or week 2 of this series. Plus...

1. *If you are an active part of a Home Church...* call or get together with your huddle members outside of home church time to talk and pray together.
2. *If you are a non-active Home Church member...* attend or at least call/write your Home Church elders this week to check in. Let them know how you are and how they can pray for you.
3. *If you're not in a Home Church...* make contact this week! Call, email, or show up. Even if just to commit to attending in the new year.
4. *If you've noticed someone who has "disappeared" or drifted away...* call or write them this week.

Home Church Questions

HANGOUT [Warming Up to the Topic – in one Large Group]

1. After reviewing Sunday's message, talk about what most encouraged, convicted, or perplexed you. Take your time here – there's lots to discuss!
 - a. Review how God speaks to us. How do you think God most often speaks to *you*? Are there things you could do to improve your hearing in your weaker areas?
 - b. What, if any, of the Spiritual Growth Movements listed have had an impact on you?
2. Have you followed through on your homework? What difference, if any, has it made for you?

HEAR [Listening to God through Scripture – in Discussion Groups]

3. Read **2 Peter 1:3-15**.
 - a. What verse or idea stands out to you? Why?
 - b. God has given you everything you need to live a godly life. What resources has God given you that you tend not to access?
 - c. See **verse 4**. How is the Christian doctrine of "theosis" (participation in God's nature) that Peter talks about here different from an eastern religious idea of being absorbed into the ocean of Ultimate Reality until all separate personhood disappears?
 - d. For each of the traits listed in **verses 5-7**, think of one example of what pursuing that looks like in your life.
 - e. See **verse 9**. How does forgetting the important truth that we *have been cleansed* from our sins have the potential to stunt our spiritual growth? Or, put another way, how might remembering that we *have been cleansed* from past sin help us be effective and productive in our faith?
 - f. Peter believes it is important to remind each other of these truths until we die. What are your daily/weekly practices that you participate in to remind yourself and/or others of biblical truth?

HUDDLE [Making It Personal and Praying Together – in Huddles]

4. Use your regular huddle questions to talk about your lives and to prepare you to pray for each other. (If you haven't already, remember to exchange contact information and arrange a time to talk, in person or on the phone.)

REMINDER: If you didn't last week, put time aside before you break for Christmas to have communion together as a Home Church.

December 4/December, 2016 // @bruxy

Quotes

Welcome to our year-end series about decluttering our souls.

Today's message:

Part 3: *Following Jesus, Together*

Simplified living requires more than just organizing your closets or cleaning out your desk drawer. It requires uncluttering your soul.

~ Bill Hybels

You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless, until they can find rest in you.

~ Augustine of Hippo (354-430)

Everybody's got a hungry heart.

~ Bruce Springsteen

Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.

~ Jesus

Purity of heart is to will one thing.

~ Soren Kierkegaard (1813–1855)

Human beings were designed to change the world. If we aren't making the world different in some way, we're likely to get depressed.

~ Donald Miller

The condition of our mind is very much a matter of the direction in which our will is set.

~ Dallas Willard

It is vanity to wish for a long life, and yet to care little about a well-spent life.

~ Thomas A Kepmis (1380–1471)

We need to begin to live the way we want the world to become.

~ Wilmer A. Cooper

Conviction is worthless unless it is converted into conduct.

~ Thomas Carlyle (1795–1881)

Follow me.

~ Jesus