



## LifeGroup Questions from Nov 08-20 “Why is Discipleship So Difficult?”

### Opening Crowd-breaker Question:

“You are the hardest person you will ever have to disciple” — true or false? why is this?

Four Obstacles to Discipleship were mentioned, along with practices to overcome them. Discuss each Obstacle and the corresponding practices to overcome them.

### 1. Carnality

Carnality is a word found in the King James Version, which carries the nuances of being fleshly, worldly, manifesting the “self life”, our old sinful nature and spiritual immaturity”

*Overcoming carnality: “We grow the character of Christ”*

How do the following spiritual practices help grow the character of Jesus within us? Do you struggle with such authentic vulnerability and humility?

- ➔ die to self (Galatians 5:24-25)
- ➔ live in the Spirit (Galatians 5:16-17)
- ➔ confess to others (James 5:16)

### 2. Conformity

Read Romans 12:2

*Overcoming Conformity: “We develop the mind of Christ”*

How do the following spiritual practices help develop the mind of Jesus within us? How do they help in application?

- ➔ study
- ➔ meditation
- ➔ fellowship

### 3. Compulsiveness

Our inner compulsion or drivenness. The difficulty is when we hinge our identity on things either than being a loved child of God “in Christ”.

Are there things you hinge your identity on? explain where you are tempted here

Read **Luke 10:41-42a**

*Overcoming Compulsiveness: “We embrace our identity in Christ”*

How do the following spiritual practices help us embrace our identity in Christ? Why are they helpful?

- ➔ solitude & silence
- ➔ sabbath rest
- ➔ listening prayer

### 4. Consumerism

Read **Luke 8:14** and **Luke 12:15**.

Spiritual directors in history talk about transforming our affections (what we love and value), teaching that if we don’t transform our affections our behaviours won’t change.

*Overcoming Consumerism: “We form the affections of Christ”*

How do the following spiritual practices help form the affections of Jesus within us? What do they look like?

- ➔ simplicity
- ➔ servanthood
- ➔ stewardship

There are other “more obvious” obstacles to discipleship[ and disciplmaking. Name others that trip you up[, and discuss ideas to overcome them.

**PRAY for one another** that we face the issues that make our discipleship so difficult