

Our Walk and Witness



Apologetics,
Evangelism,
and Disciple-

Apologetics, Evangelism,
and Discipleship

For we live by faith, not
by sight. • For we live by
faith, not by sight. • For
we live by faith, not by

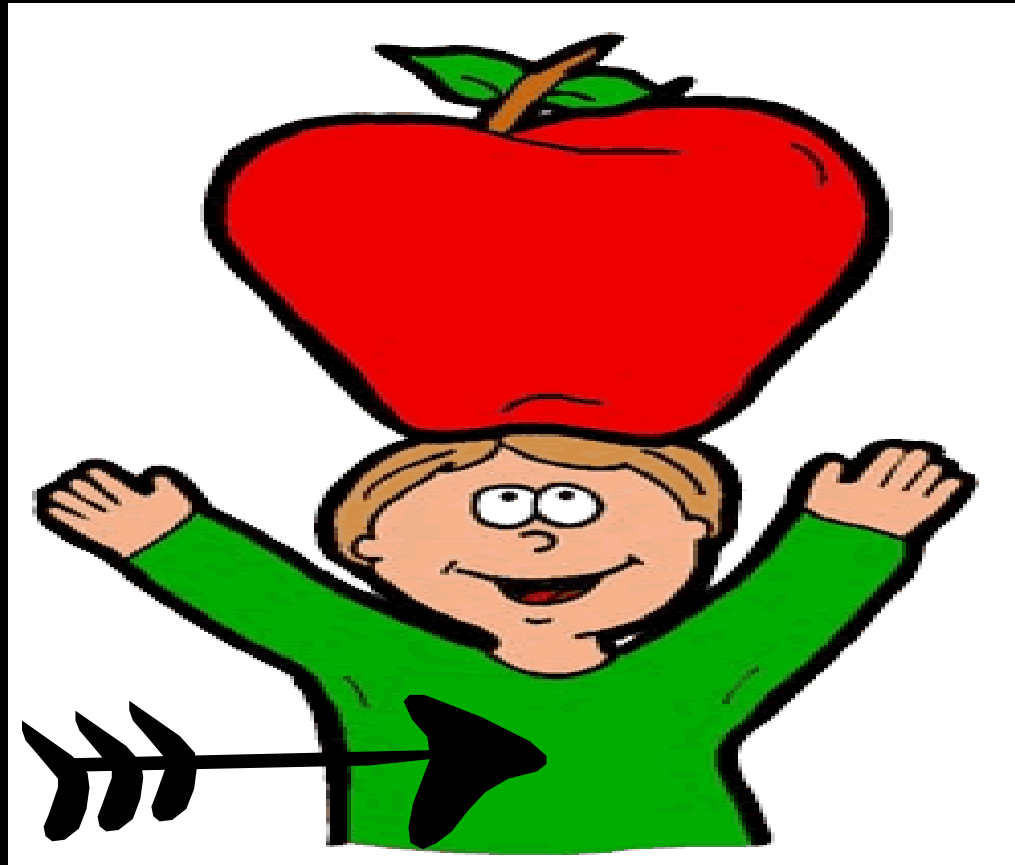
6 WEEK CLASS WITH DR. DAVID GIESLER

NGIM.org/all-resources/

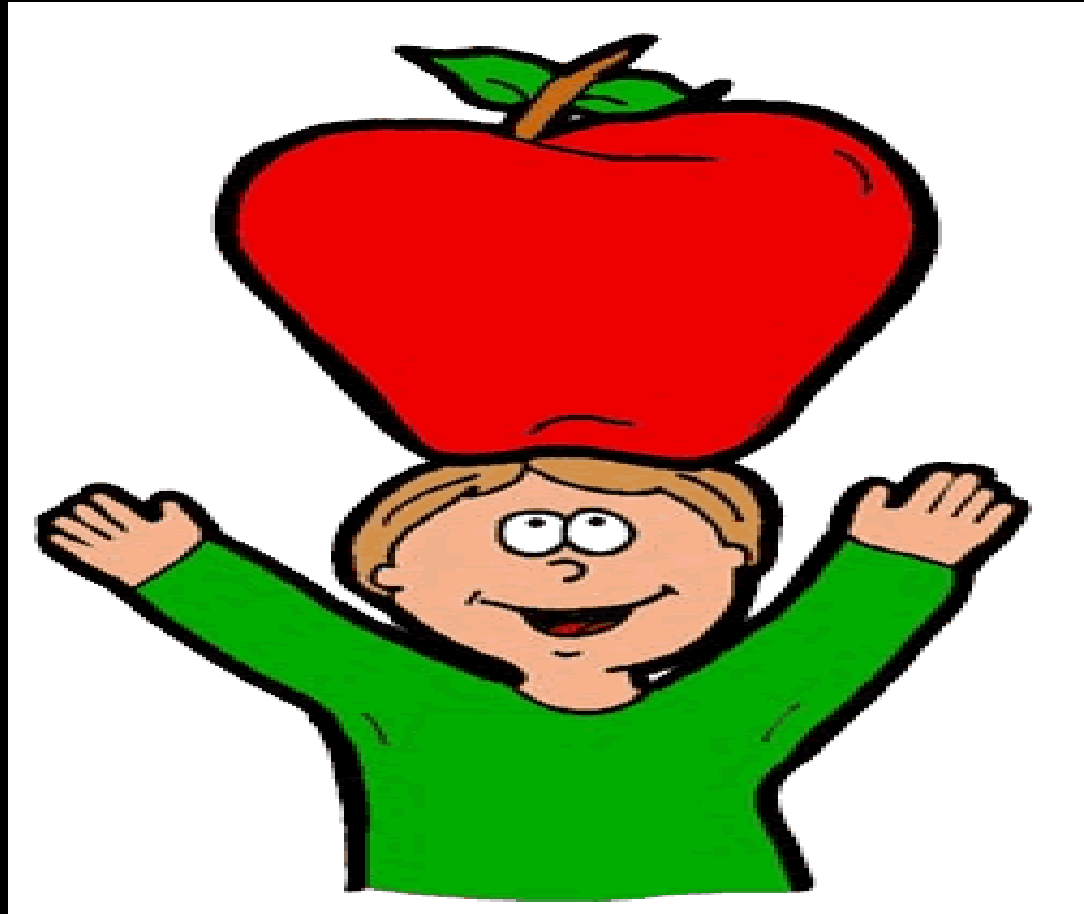
PowerPoints



“To Succeed in Your Spiritual Life, Aim Higher”



→ God



In Fact, Aim a Lot Higher

Our Focus In Christ

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. (Col. 3:1)

14 I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. (Phil. 3;14)



**a certain kind EVANGELISM,
a certain kind of APOLOGETIC,
and a certain kind of DISCIPLESHIP**



a certain kind EVANGELISM,

A CERTAIN KIND...

- that allows others to **discover the truth** for themselves by **asking thought-provoking questions** about what they say they believe.

A CERTAIN KIND...

- **that uses an approach that is more conversational.**
- **that seeks to build spiritual conversations to your unbelieving friends from the standpoint of their interest, not your own!**
- **that maximizes our questions by remembering the three D's.**



a certain kind of APOLOGETIC

A CERTAIN KIND...

- that is apologetically “lite” to begin with.



a certain kind of DISCIPLESHIP

**“The mandate
must precede
the mission.”**

Edmund Chan, *A Certain Kind*, p. 140



Key Verse For Six Week Class

and you shall warn them about the statutes and the laws, and make them know the way in which they must walk and what they must do. (Ex. 18:20)



At NGIM we call this blend of
Apologetics, Evangelism, and
Discipleship, the four R's of being:

R_{ooted}

R_{ested}

R_{eady}

R_{eaching}

BEGIN

with the *END*

in *MIND*

PAINTING THE BIG PICTURE

**Can you tell what kind
of Mosaic picture this is?**



CAN YOU TELL ME NOW?



What Was God's Plan From The Beginning?

“And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. 9 But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” (Gen. 3:8-9)

“And God blessed them (Adam and Eve). And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and ...” (Gen. 1:28)

An open book with a small dog lying on it. The book is open, showing two pages of text. A small, dark-colored dog is lying on the right page of the book. The background is a dark, textured surface.

God's plan had a snag!

What was God's concern with Adam and Eve, even before the Fall?

Why did God allow Lucifer to tempt Eve?

Why Should God Permit Evil?

LOVE *is the greatest good.*

LOVE *requires free choice.*

FREE *implies possibility of the opposite choice.*

GOD *alone is love, the greatest good.*

GREATEST *good for humanity is God's love.*

GREATEST *evil for humanity is rejecting God.*

Why Should God Permit Evil?

TO STOP *evil is to stop free choices.*

TO STOP *free choices is to stop love.*

TO STOP *love is to stop the greatest good.*

TO STOP *the greatest good is the greatest evil.*

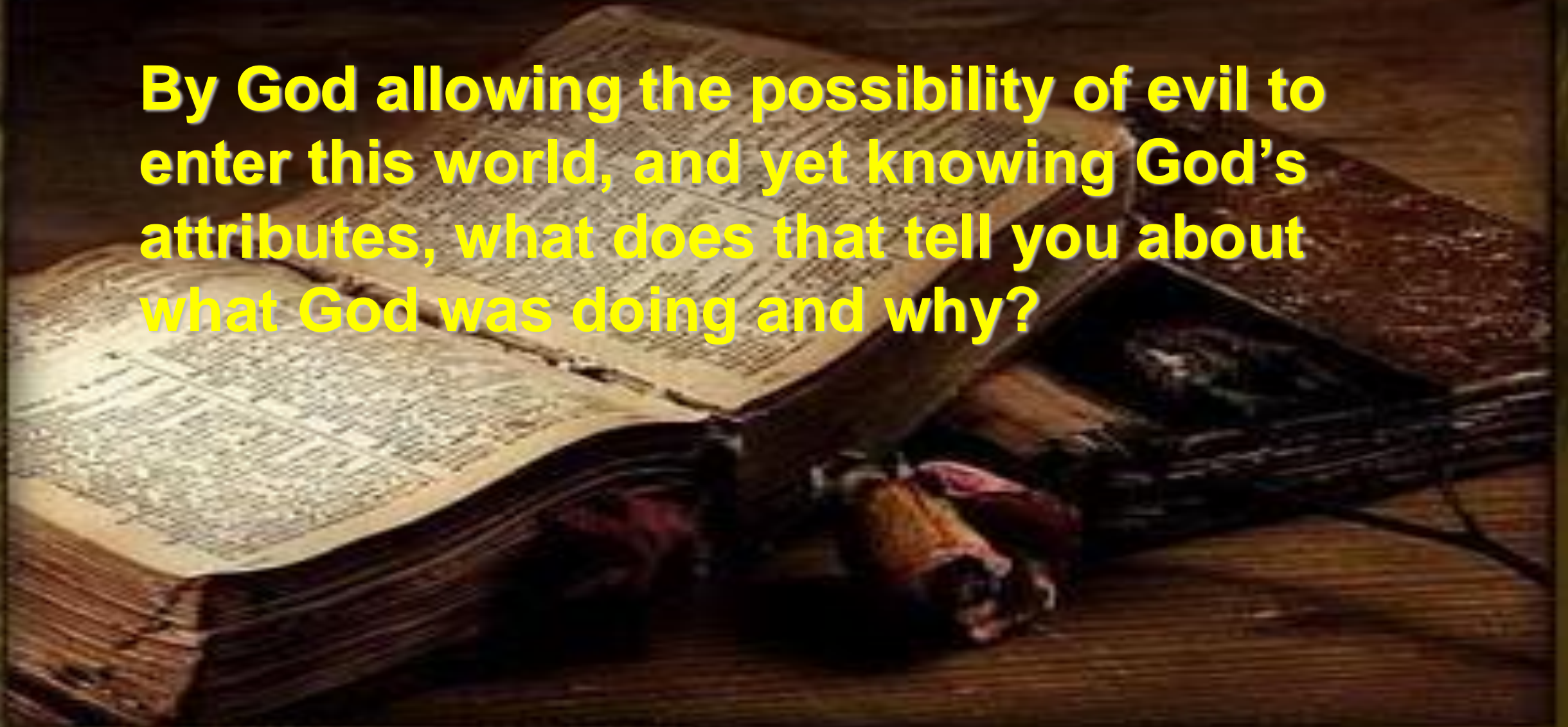
Question:

Did we really want God to never permit the possibility of evil ?

Do we really want God to stop our evil?

God's plan was...

By God allowing the possibility of evil to enter this world, and yet knowing God's attributes, what does that tell you about what God was doing and why?



What was God's plan...?

God's plan from the beginning was the redemption of mankind.

How do we know this is true?

Answer 1 He allowed Lucifer to tempt Eve.

Answer 2 Redemption was part of God predetermined plan!

God's Original Plan Was Redemption

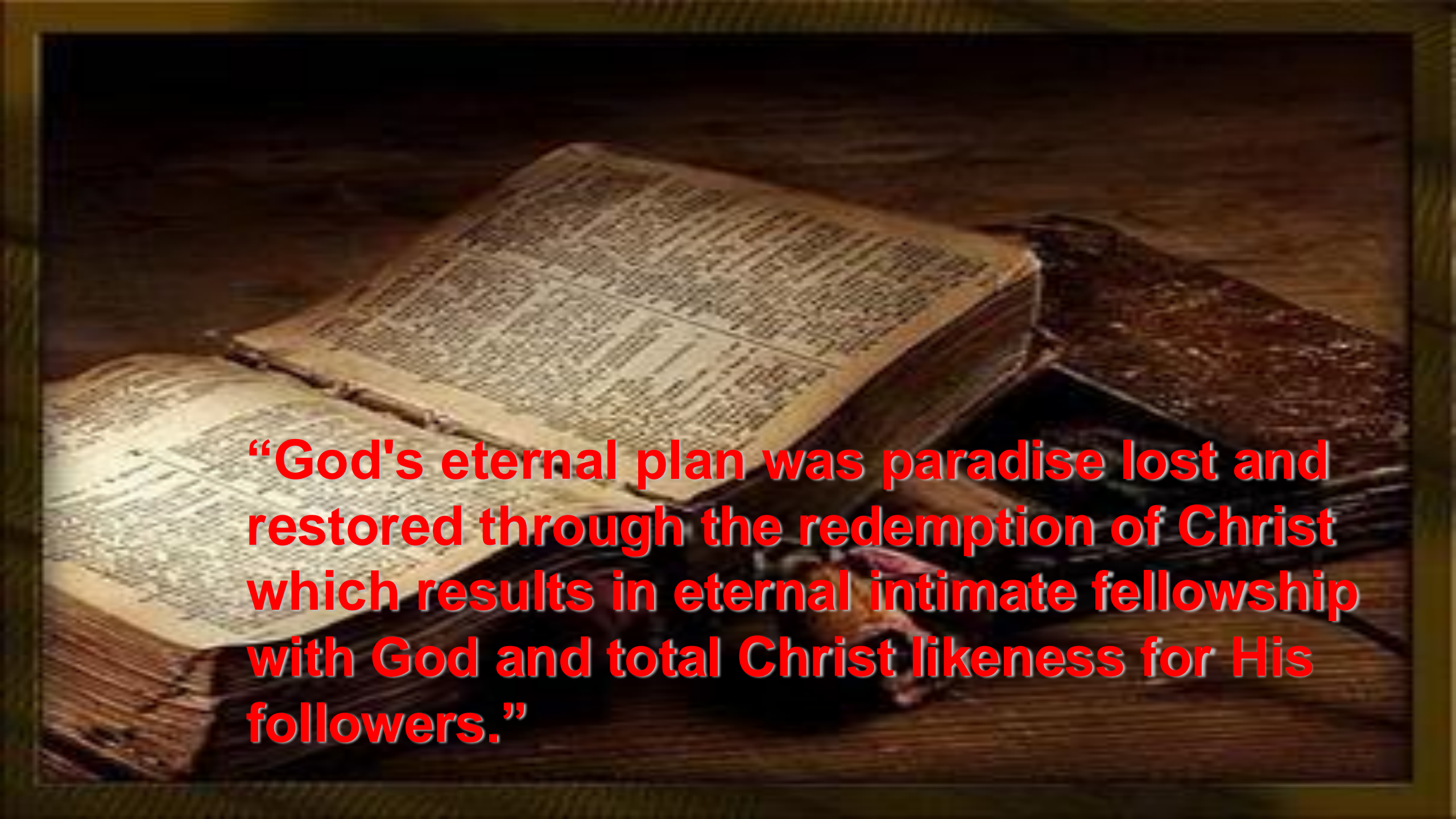
Knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. **He was foreknown before the foundation of the world** but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you (1 Pet. 1:18-20).

What Was God's Plan From The Beginning?

Answer: To maximize the potential for good and quarantine evil forever (Matt. 13:36-43).

“...He is the best of all beings possible and, as such, He must produce the best of all worlds actually possible (if He is going to create). Permitting this evil world is the best of all possible ways to produce the best of all possible worlds.”

Norm Geisler, If God, Why Evil? P. 68-69

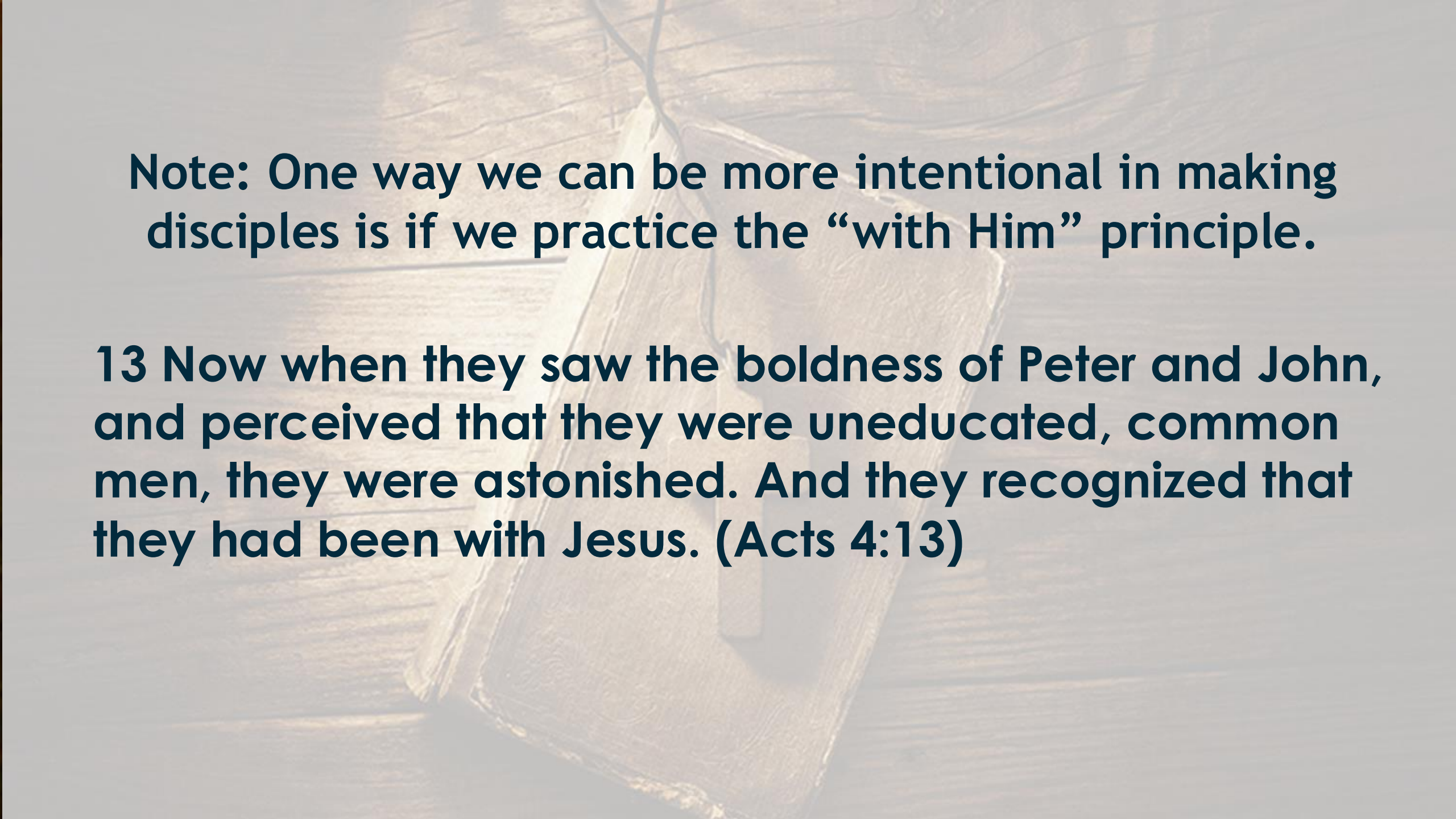
An open book with text on the pages, resting on a wooden surface. The text is in red with a white outline.

“God's eternal plan was paradise lost and restored through the redemption of Christ which results in eternal intimate fellowship with God and total Christ likeness for His followers.”

An open book with text on the pages, resting on a wooden surface. The book is the central focus of the image, with its pages slightly aged and the text clearly visible. The background is a dark, textured surface, possibly a wooden table or desk.

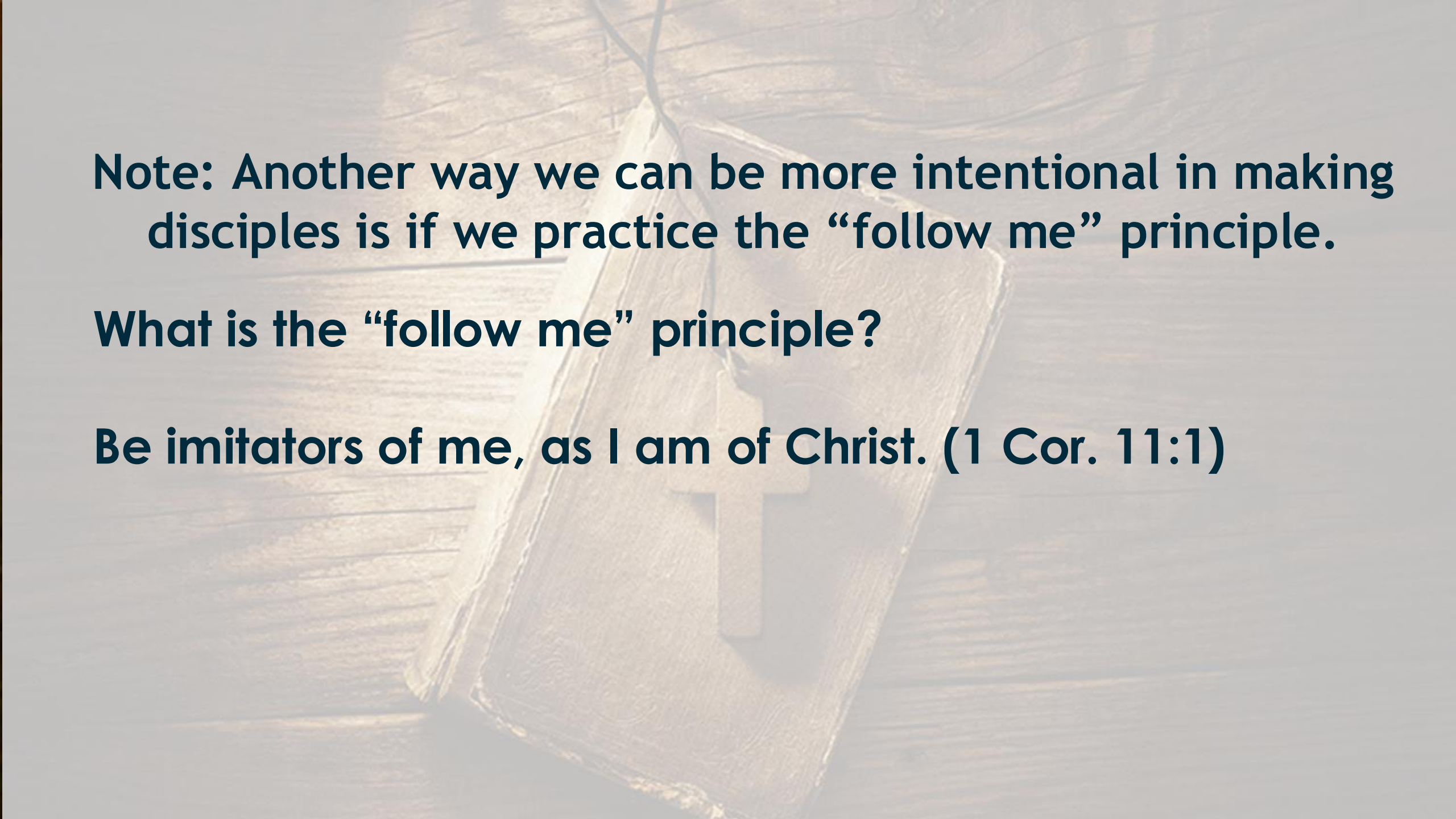
The church's passion...?

**If redemption of mankind was God's
greatest plan, fulfilling the Great
Commission should be the church's
greatest passion!**



Note: One way we can be more intentional in making disciples is if we practice the “with Him” principle.

13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. And they recognized that they had been with Jesus. (Acts 4:13)



Note: Another way we can be more intentional in making disciples is if we practice the “follow me” principle.

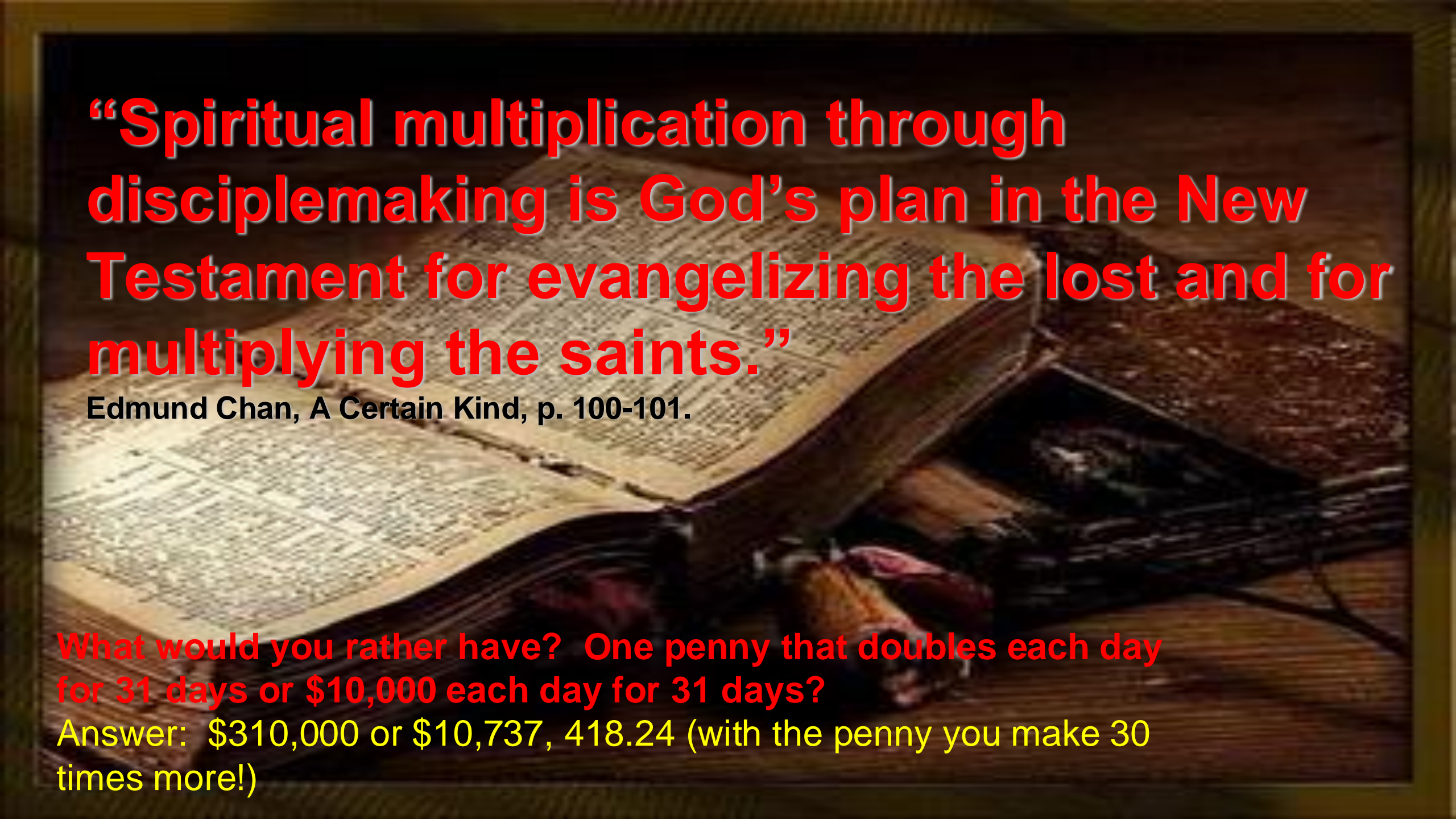
What is the “follow me” principle?

Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ. (1 Cor. 11:1)

Putting The Pieces Together...



Why is the great commission so important?

An open book with a quill pen resting on it. The text is overlaid on the image.

**“Spiritual multiplication through
disciplemaking is God’s plan in the New
Testament for evangelizing the lost and for
multiplying the saints.”**

Edmund Chan, *A Certain Kind*, p. 100-101.


**What would you rather have? One penny that doubles each day
for 31 days or \$10,000 each day for 31 days?**

**Answer: \$310,000 or \$10,737, 418.24 (with the penny you make 30
times more!)**

Putting The Pieces Together...

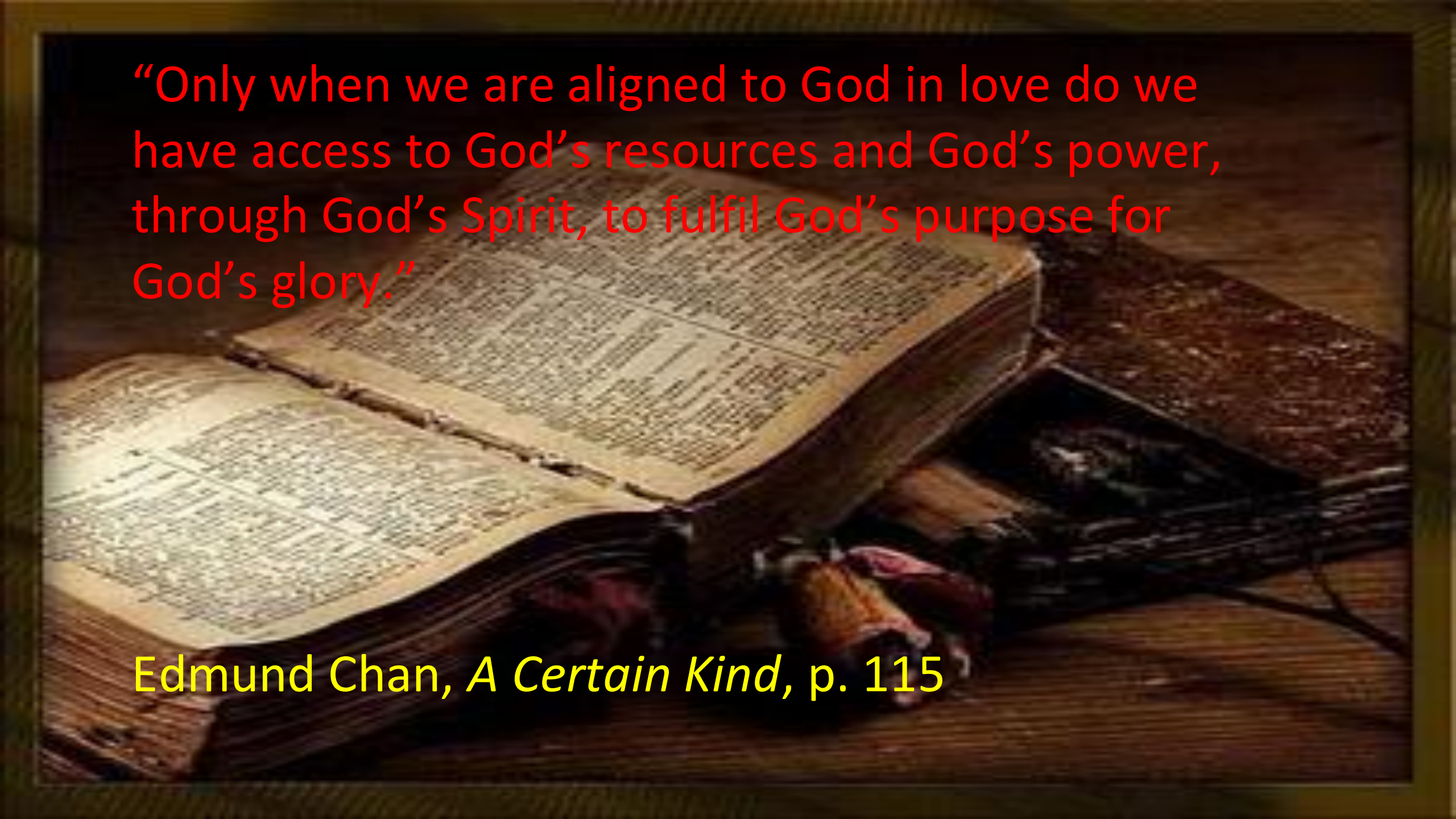


But why is the great commandment so important?

An open book with text on the pages, resting on a wooden surface. The text is overlaid in red with a white outline.

“The Great Commission is the core mission of the Church, not her chief mandate. The assignment of the Great Commission cannot be meaningfully carried out without an alignment to the Great Commandment.

Edmund Chan, *A Certain Kind*, p. 115

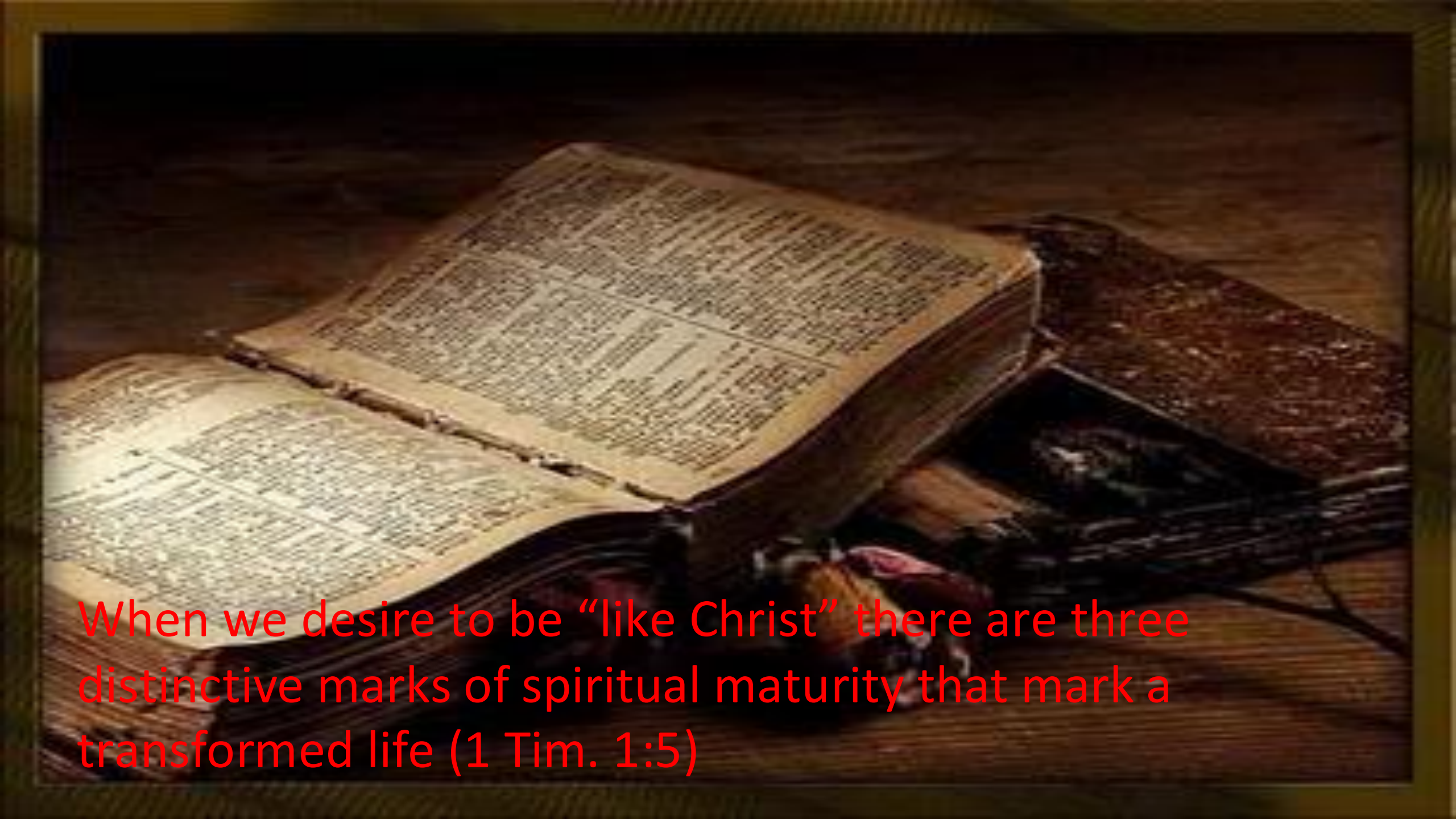
An open book with a small figurine on it. The book is open, showing two pages of text. A small, dark-colored figurine is placed on the right page. The background is dark and textured.

“Only when we are aligned to God in love do we have access to God’s resources and God’s power, through God’s Spirit, to fulfil God’s purpose for God’s glory.”

Edmund Chan, *A Certain Kind*, p. 115

An open book with a pair of glasses resting on it. The book is open to a page with dense text, and the glasses are placed over the text. The scene is lit with a warm, golden light, creating a sense of quiet study or reflection.

The first part of our commitment to discipleship
may come about when we desire more and more
to be like Christ.

An open Bible with a pair of glasses resting on it, set against a dark background. The Bible is open to a page with dense text, and the glasses are positioned over the lower portion of the pages. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the texture of the paper and the frames of the glasses.

When we desire to be “like Christ” there are three distinctive marks of spiritual maturity that mark a transformed life (1 Tim. 1:5)

Marks of Spiritual Maturity...

5 The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. (1 Tim. 1:5)

An open book with a red rose resting on its pages. The book is open to a page with dense text, and the rose is placed on the right page. The background is dark and textured.

SIX Character Traits Classified Under Three Major Dimensions

The Godward Dimension – yieldedness and allegiance

The Inward Dimension – humility and gentleness

The Outward Dimension – holiness and love

Edmund Chan, *A Certain Kind*, p. 171

Things To Remember about Discipleship

Discipleship is important because God needs people to labor in the field.



An open book with a small dog resting on it. The book is open, showing text on the pages. A small, light-colored dog is curled up on the right page of the book. The background is dark and textured.

Things To Remember about OUR WALK AND WITNESS

“The ‘way we are to walk’ must cradle the ‘work we are to do’!...So the Great Commission is not merely an assignment from God, it calls for an alignment to God!”

Edmund Chan, *A Certain Kind*, p. 140

An open book with text on the pages, resting on a wooden surface. The book is the central focus, with its pages slightly aged and the text clearly visible. The background is a dark, textured surface, possibly wood or stone, which adds to the historical and scholarly feel of the image. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the paper and the wood.

The second part of our commitment to discipleship may come about when we see the benefit of following Him, and want to encourage others to follow Him also.

**Putting all the pieces together
to see the bigger picture!**



Introduction to Discipleship

When we get to the end of our life, what should have been our larger goal all through our life?

Answer: Our focus vertically and our focus horizontally (Our relationship with God and our relationship with Others).

A painting depicting Jesus sitting on a rock, surrounded by a crowd of people. Jesus is the central figure, wearing a red tunic and a blue cloak, with his right hand raised in a gesture of blessing or teaching. The crowd consists of men, women, and children, some looking at Jesus with interest and others with more somber expressions. The background is a soft, hazy landscape. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Jesus said

“Take my yoke upon you,
and learn from me, for I
am gentle and lowly in
heart, and you will find rest
for your souls. 30 For my
yoke is easy, and my
burden is light.”

Matthew 11:29-30 ESV

**“We love because
He first loved us.”**

(1 John 4:19, ESV)



Our Vertical Focus

1. **Our Vertical focus should be three:**

- **Loving God (THE GREAT COMANDMENT)**
- **Knowing God better and developing greater intimacy with Him.**
- **Becoming more like Christ.**

Our Vertical Focus

1. Our Vertical focus should be three:

- Loving God (THE GREAT COMMANDMENT)
 - To love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength (Deut. 6:4-9; Mark 12:30).

Spiritual Formation

4 “Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.^[a] 5 You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. 6 And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. 7 You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. 8 You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. 9 You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates. (Deut. 6:4-9)

* Here is an example of what it looks like to love God with all your heart, soul, and might in the Old Testament.

²¹ And the king (Josiah) commanded all the people, “Keep the Passover to the Lord your God, as it is written in this Book of the Covenant.” ²² For no such Passover had been kept since the days of the judges who judged Israel, or during all the days of the kings of Israel or of the kings of Judah. ²³ But in the eighteenth year of King Josiah this Passover was kept to the Lord in Jerusalem.

²⁴ Moreover, Josiah put away the mediums and the necromancers and the household gods and the idols and all the abominations that were seen in the land of Judah and in Jerusalem, that he might establish the words of the law that were written in the book that Hilkiah the priest found in the house of the Lord. ²⁵ Before him there was no king like him, who turned to the Lord **with all his heart and with all his soul and with all his might,** according to all the Law of Moses, nor did any like him arise after him. 2 Kings 23:21-25

Our Vertical Focus

1. Our Vertical focus should be three:

- Loving God (THE GREAT COMMANDMENT)
- **Knowing God better and developing greater intimacy with Him**

Spiritual Formation

One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire^[a] in his temple. ⁵ For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock. (Ps. 27:4-5)

Spiritual Formation

⁷ But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸ Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ (Philippians 3:7-8).

Spiritual Formation

⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— ¹⁰ that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, (Philippians 3:9-10).

Spiritual Formation

“We cannot avoid the dangers of life without God’s continual help, so we should ask Him for it ceaselessly. But how can we ask for help unless we are with Him? To be with Him, we must cultivate the holy habit of thinking of Him often... We have to know someone before we can truly love them. In order to know God, we must think about Him often. And once we get to know Him, we will think about Him even more often, because where our treasure is, there also is our heart!”

Brother Lawrence, *The Practice of the Presence of God*, p. 46

Our Vertical Focus

1. Our Vertical focus should be three:

- Loving God (THE GREAT COMMAND)
- Knowing God better and developing greater intimacy with Him.
- **Becoming more like Christ.**

Spiritual Formation

Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.

1 Jn. 2:3

Spiritual Formation

20 For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. 21 But what fruit were you getting at that time from the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. (Rom. 6:20-21)

Things To Remember about Discipleship

- **Becoming more like Christ (1 Jn. 3:2).**
 - **Conformity to Christ cannot be accomplished to any degree unless we first learn to abide in Christ.**

Spiritual Formation

A. The key to abiding in Christ is acknowledging and mourn our spiritual poverty (Matt. 5:3-4).

B. Once we acknowledge and mourn our spiritual poverty, then spiritual transformation is possible (Matt. 5:6-11).

6 “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

7 “Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

8 “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

9 “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

10 “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 “Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

Our Horizontal Focus

1. Our Horizontal focus should be two:

- **LOVING YOUR NEIGHBOR**
- **THE GREAT COMMISSION**

Our Horizontal Focus

1. Our Horizontal focus should be two:

- **LOVING YOUR NEIGHBOR**

- **To love our neighbor as ourselves (Mark 12:31)**

Spiritual Formation

The second is this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.”

(Mark 12:31)

Spiritual Formation

34 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. (Jn. 13:34)

Our Horizontal Focus

1. **Our Horizontal focus should be two:**

- **LOVING YOUR NEIGHBOR**
- **The Great Commission**
 - **To fulfill the Great Commission (Matt. 28:18-20).**

Things To Remember about Disciplemaking

“Disciplemaking is all about a certain kind of PERSON who is radically committed to a certain kind of PURPOSE and who, through a certain kind of PROCESS, reproduces a certain kind of PRODUCT.”

Edmund Chan, *A Certain Kind*, p. 36



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