

**2 weeks ago** I taught a **message** called **Elevate your Faith**

& I **just felt** like - it **wasn't Enough** - Like I just **PUT these**  
**3 Critical Truths** out there - & then we **just went** on our **way**

& **THAT** is exactly the problem - in **MOST** Christian's Lives

We **HEAR** a **Critical Truth**

& then we just **GO ON Living** - Same as we **WERE before**

& **then** we wonder **WHY** these **critical truths** we're hearing  
Are **NOT** really **IMPACTING** our lives !!

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So **today** - I'd like to **REVISIT** those **3 Critical Truths** -  
from the **Elevate Your Faith** Message

& I'd **like** to **talk more** about - **THE HOW !!**

**HOW** do we get these **critical truths**  
to **Actually Transform** our Lives

**Let's Pray**

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**Heb 11:1** says - Our Faith **CHANGES** **how** we **SEE** things  
& **how** we **RESPOND** to things

It's our **FAITH** that says - **That's GOD!** - **Right there!**  
**I see GOD** at work in my life - **Right There!** - **FOR GOOD**

& Walking with God at THAT level of Faith -  
Is what will Radically TRANSFORM our lives

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So - in the 1st Msg - the 3 Critical Areas to - Elevate Your Faith;

- 1) Meet Jesus Alone
- 2) Follow Jesus with Friends
- 3) Know Jesus in Trials

Today I'd Like to talk MORE about the Practical Steps you can Take  
to Get Started - Elevating Your Faith

& - SINCE this is follow up message - If you haven't HEARD or  
WATCHED the 1st Msg - DO THAT - called "Elevate your Faith"

So - we're going to take Each of those Three Critical Areas -  
& Talk Practically about HOW to Develop ea one in your life

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## #1 - Meet Jesus Alone

Said 1st msg - This is the Quality Jesus looked for in His Disciples  
Not, were they "All That" - But, would they "BE WITH HIM"

Because Jesus KNEW - that Being WITH Him  
would Radically Transform their Lives

& WE'VE Got to Know - that "Being With Jesus "  
will Radically Transform OUR Lives - in the Exact same way

BUUUTTT . . . MOST Christians NEVER Do This - Never -  
Most Christians NEVER Get AROUND to This

& That should Really **SCARE** you  
Because MOST of you are saying RIGHT NOW

*“Yeah, I really need to start spending time with Jesus,  
but I just haven’t gotten around to it yet”*

If you don’t FORCE that to Change - it will NEVER Change,

You’ll be laying on your deathbed saying  
*I wish I would’ve spent more time with Jesus*

We’ve GOT to FORCE a Change in this area  
& then We’ve GOT to FIGHT to keep it going

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The #1 answer to the HOW question - in EACH of these areas  
is - GET A DISCIPLER - someone to TEACH you HOW

Discipleship is *“Following Jesus TOGETHER”* -

It’s Someone ELSE Helping you LEARN How to Follow Jesus

So . . . THAT is the #1 Answer - in THIS area - & the other TWO  
GET a good Discipler to TEACH you these things

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THEN - there are so many ways to Meet Jesus Alone

It’s hard to know where to start

But I can give you TWO ABSOLUTES

#1) it must be IN God’s Word

#2) it must DEPEND ON The Holy Spirit

**Meeting Jesus Alone** - must be done **IN GOD'S WORD**

You've got to **use the Actual Scripture** - & **Meet** Jesus **THERE**

& you **CANNOT** really do that

**without** a **Strong Dependence** on the **Holy Spirit**

**God's Word** is **ALIVE** - It's **Living & Powerful**

It will **cut out** the **SIN** from your heart - & it will **POUR IN**  
the **Grace & Mercy** from God - that you **NEED so BADLY**

**Hebrews 4:12 (ESV)**

*12 For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword . . . **discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.***

We **NEED** the **Living, Active, Sharp Sword** of the **Word of God**  
To **DO** what it is **MADE to do**

**Which** is not **Just** - **Exposing** the **thoughts** & **intentions** of our heart  
It also **POURS** - God's Life changing **Grace & Mercy** - **INTO** our lives

**Just 4 vs's later - in Hebrews 4:16 (esv)**

*16 Let us then with confidence **draw near to the throne of grace,**  
**that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.***

If you will **DRAW NEAR** to God - **IN His WORD**

**It WILL Discern** your **thoughts & intentions** - **AND** - it will **POUR**  
God's **MERCY** and **GRACE** - INTO your life

& **this is done** when you **MEET the Lord ALONE**  
In **Quiet, Intimate, Personal Time** with Him

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Our Primary tool for this is **“The Daily Discipleship Journal”**

You can **get** the **JOURNAL**, & the **INSTRUCTIONS**  
at our website - **calvarynuevo.org** - under **RESOURCES**

**AND** - We’ve **put a copy** of one in **your Bulletin** today (*get it out*)

We **use** just **1 or 2 vs’s** at a time to help you **LEARN**  
**HOW** to **Meet Jesus ALONE**

But **once** you **do it** a bit - you **can apply** the **Same Approach**  
to **any section** of the **Bible** you’re reading

**Here’s what the Daily Discipleship Journal teaches you do**

- 1) **Meditate** on God’s Word
- 2) **Apply** God’s Word
- 3) **Respond** to God’s Word

& if you will **learn** to consistently **DO THAT - I PROMISE** you -  
**your life** will be **Supernaturally & Radically - TRANSFORMED**

<b>REVIEW DDJ - &amp; <u>Scrip by Topic</u> on PHONE APP</b>
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We’ve **GOT to Learn** to Really **COMMUNE** (Interact) with God  
**One on One** - In the **POWER** of **His Word** & His **Holy Spirit**

**& However you approach it - You’ve GOT to:**

- 1) **Meditate** on God’s Word
- 2) **Apply** God’s Word
- 3) **Respond** to God’s Word

& **as you do - OVER TIME** - It **WILL Elevate Your Faith**  
*- Please Allow one of us here - to help you learn this*

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**Next - #2** in the **ELEVATE YOUR FAITH** message - was

**You Must FOLLOW JESUS WITH FRIENDS**

**Often** this Requires **BOTH** a “**Pulling Away**” - **AND** an “**Attaching To**”

We’ve **GOT** to be **ATTACHED TO** Friends who are **Following JESUS**

But **in order** to do that - **Often**, we’ve got to get **UNATTACHED**  
to **friends** who are **Following the WORLD**

Here’s the **News Flash** - You **CAN’T Love God**  
**AND** the **SINFUL things** of this world - **AT THE SAME TIME**

So - if you’re **Currently ATTACHED**  
to **people** who **LOVE** the **SINFUL THINGS** of this world . . .

**You’re Probably Going to HAVE TO (to some extent)**  
Get **UN-ATTACHED** from people following the **WORLD**  
Before you can get **A-TTACHED** to people following **JESUS**

**James 4:4 (NLT)**

***4 . . . Don’t you realize that friendship with the world makes you an enemy of God? I say it again: If you want to be a friend of the world, you make yourself an enemy of God.***

Well **THAT** seems **Pretty Clear** - **Doesn’t it?**

You **CANNOT** Follow **JESUS** - if you are **ATTACHED**  
to **people** who are **Following** the **WORLD**

**Amos 3:3 (NLT)**

***3 Can two people walk together without agreeing on the direction?***

We've **GOT** to walk thru life with people  
who are going the **SAME DIRECTION** - **WE** Want to **GO**

That **doesn't mean** we totally **Cut-Off** & Abandon  
our **friends** who are on the **Road to Destruction**

But **instead** of **Walking** to **Destruction** **With Them** . . .

We **Reach out to** them - & **encourage** **THEM** to Join **US**  
on the **Road to LIFE** - instead of the **Road to DEATH**

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So - **Once that's Settled** - Next - You've **GOT** to **ATTACH** Yourself  
To **Friends** who are actually **Following Jesus**

You absolutely **MUST** have **Friends** you can **LOCK ARMS** with  
to **Follow Jesus TOGETHER**

There are **NO SOLO MISSIONS** in the Army of God  
Because **Solo Missions** are **FAR TOO DANGEROUS!!**

We **talked** in the **1st msg** about **how** the **LION** picks off  
the **stray antelope** - & viciously **rips its guts out** & devours it

**THAT** is why there are **no solo missions!**

Because **your enemy** is like a **LION** - **Prowling** Around waiting to  
Spiritually **RIP YOUR GUTS OUT** - & **Eat you** for **Breakfast**

### **Ecclesiastes 4:12 (NLT)**

***12 A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken.***

**Jesus taught His Disciples to NEVER Got Out ALONE  
& all thru the N.T. - You NEVER See Them Alone**

**& even tho Jesus was Constantly MAKING TIME  
to Be Alone with the Father**

**He ALWAYS Ministered with his Friends  
*Even tho at times they were Knuckle heads***

**The ONLY Time Jesus Ministered Alone - was when  
He was ON THE CROSS - *(cause no one could join Him)***

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**What does this Mean FOR YOU - to Elevate YOUR Faith**

**It means you MUST - ATTACH Yourself  
to people who are Following Jesus !**

**& they may not be your friends when you First Meet Them  
But YOU HAVE to make sure they BECOME your friends**

**& please (as I've said) DO NOT Say, *"I've been coming to this church for X time, & No one has Invited me to anything . . ."***

**Listen Please - I AM INVITING YOU NOW !!!**

**You are ALL INVITED - Personally, Meaningfully, Sincerely  
You are ALL INVITED to JOIN US in Following Jesus**

**BUT - Here's the RUB - YOU have to DO IT - YOU have to TAKE  
the step - YOU have to make the CALL - YOU have to SHOW UP**

**It's UP TO YOU - to JOIN others who are following Jesus  
& THEN they will become your Friends!!**

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I want to ask **BRIAN GOSSETT** to come up here & share -  
*Brian runs our Men's Ministry - & is our resident 'Encourager'*

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**Finally - #3** in the **ELEVATE YOUR FAITH** message - was  
**You've Got to KNOW JESUS IN TRIALS**

I **said** in the **1st msg** - **THIS** is the **ULTIMATE Faith Elevator**

**We MUST learn:**

To **MEET** Jesus in the **FIRE**

To **KNOW** Jesus in the **VALLEY**

To **WALK** with Jesus thru the Most **DIFFICULT TIMES**

**You've Got to KNOW Jesus IN Your TRIALS**

**When** you **think** you're **ALONE**

**When** you **think** God has **FORGOTTEN** you

**When** you **think** your Circumstances are **BIGGER** than God

**DON'T** Allow your **FLESH - FED** by the **Lies** of the **Enemy**

To cause you to **Run FROM GOD**

You **MUST RUN TO GOD**

**We've GOT to Remember what Psalm 11:4 Cries Out (NLT)**

***4 But the Lord IS IN his holy Temple; the Lord STILL RULES from heaven. He WATCHES everyone closely, examining every person on earth.***

God is **STILL** on the **Throne**

He is **STILL RULING** from **Heaven**

He is **WATCHING** what you're **going thru** . . .

& He **IS WITH YOU** !!!

He hasn't **FORSAKEN** You - **In Fact** He wants to **REVEAL** Himself **to you** - in a way that **COULD NOT HAPPEN** *without this Trial*

### **Romans 8:31 & Following (NLT)**

***31 . . . If God is for us, who can ever be against us?*** (successfully)

***. . .***

***35 Can anything ever separate us from Christ's love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death?***

***. . .***

***37 No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us.***

***38 And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love.***

***39 No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord. - Say AMEN***

Your Trials **CANNOT Separate You** from the **LOVE of God**

But our **LACK of Faith** in **Trials** - Can cause **US** to **Turn FROM GOD**  
Even Tho **HE** will **Never Turn FROM US**

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So - **the BIG Question** is - **HOW do we KNOW Jesus**  
in the **MIDST** of Our **Trials** ?

**1st thing** (pls lsten) - You **MUST SUBJECT YOURSELF**  
to some **SERIOUS Discipleship** right here

You've **GOT** to find a **Mature Christian**  
Who has **MET JESUS** in the Fire themselves

& you've **GOT** to **Subject Yourself** to their **Strong Discipleship**

**Because** when you're really "**IN IT**"

You're **NOT wanting** to **KNOW JESUS**

You're **NOT Wanting** to "***Set your Mind on the things of Heaven***"

You just want God to **FIX EVERYTHING**

& **Make it** like **YOU** Want it !!

& you need a **Strong Discipler** to **TURN** you from that

& get you to see the **HIGHER PURPOSE** that **God has** for you

Which is **KNOWING JESUS** - **Right** in the **Midst** of that **Fire**

**Jesus said in John 16:33 (ESV)**

***33 In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."***

You **HAVEN'T overcome** this world

You **CAN'T overcome** this world

But **JESUS HAS** . . .

& in **KNOWING HIM** - You can **Stand In HIS Victory**

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No **watch this** - **cause** this is **COOL**

**When you get a Strong Discipler - They will Get you to:**

#1) **Meet Jesus** in your Alone Time

#2) **Follow Jesus** with Friends

**In fact** - **that Trial** that **you're in** - **IF** you will **handle it** correctly

It can Actually **MOTIVATE you** . . . → →

To Meet Jesus Daily & Follow Jesus With Friends -  
Like NOTHING ELSE will

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The ANSWER to the Ques - HOW do I KNOW Jesus in My Trials?

Get a Strong Discippler - Who will;

- 1) Help You Meet Jesus Daily - According to your trial - AND
- 2) Help you Follow Jesus with Friends - to get you thru it

I want to ask PATRICK WELTER to come up here & share with you -  
*Patrick & Tamara run our Prayer Ministry*

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In order to Elevate Your Faith, You've got to;

- 1) Meet Jesus Alone
- 2) Follow Jesus with Friends
- 3) Know Jesus in Trials

Each of these Critical Areas - is a LEARNING EXPERIENCE

SO - Let's Start LEARNING HOW to GROW in these areas

(poss - not on video) Colossians 3 (ESV)

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

***2 Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth . . . ELEVATE your Faith***

***4 When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.***

Run the race - Stand Firm - Elevate your Faith

Let's Pray