

LIKE JESUS
4 Chair Discipling
The Method—An Overview
First Christian Church—March 29, 2020
Chuck Foreman, Teaching/Missions Pastor

ME Challenging times reveal our true colors...

- 2000 Earthquake in Taiwan...
- 2002 Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) in SE Asia...

WE Jesus always meets people right where they are, but he doesn't leave them there. He takes them on a customized journey of growth, a place where each of us become mature, fruit bearing people. This is the journey of every disciple, every Follower of Jesus—that of becoming not just a disciple, but a disciple-maker.

New content for all FCC Connection Groups:
LIKE JESUS App

Current Teaching Series:
Book— 4 Chair Discipling

In this APP you can take a personal assessment which will reveal where you are in your personal journey with Jesus. This is a continuum called 4 Chair Discipling. It moves us all from:

Seekers to Believers to Workers to Fruit Bearing Disciple-Makers

This is the growth process for all of us. It speaks to the work God has to do in each of us and the great *distance* he has yet to move most of us. Growing can be a painful process. It requires a lot of dying, changing and transforming along the way.

Jesus used the analogy of a seed, which, unless it goes into the ground and "dies" or transforms from its current state and germinates and sprouts, will never become what it was designed to be. But, once germination happens, it sprouts, establishes roots, grows and bears fruit! 😊

This is exactly what Jesus wants to see happen with each of us! (John 12:24)

I have a very strong sense that God is using this current corona virus crisis to bring our world to its knees and to help each of us grow into the people he designed us to be. *We know from scripture that we cannot and do not grow without trial and hardship.* More on that in a minute.

GOD's Story— The Method of Jesus: His 4 Challenges, Matthew 4:18-20; John 1:35-42

Challenge 1: Come & See (John 1:39)

- **Chair 1—The Seeker**

Challenge 2: Follow Me (John 1:43; Matthew 4:19)

- **Chair 2—The Believer**

Challenge 3: I Will Make You Those Who Fish for People (Matthew 4:19)

- **Chair 3—The Worker**

Challenge 4: Go & Bear Fruit (John 15:8,16)

- **Chair 4—The Disciple-Maker**

In which of these Chairs do you sit right now? Where are you and where do you need to go?

- o Take the Personal Assessment in the LIKE JESUS APP

Along this journey of growth toward maturity, we must go thru some difficult trials. We don't just grow automatically and painlessly. **You can be sure that this present crisis is one of these trials!**

Listen to what God tells us about suffering:

- Suffering produces perseverance, Romans 5:1-5
- Faith & Love increase thru trials, 2 Thessalonians 1:3-4
- Trials lead to maturity & completeness, James 1:2-4
- We have hope, though we are refined in the fire, 1 Peter 1:3-7
- Don't be surprised! Keep doing good, 1 Peter 4:12-13, 19

BIG Idea:

**For Jesus to take us from seekers all the way to being mature,
fruit bearing disciple-makers, he must lead us through many trials along the way.
But remember his promise, "Surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age."
(Matthew 28: 20)**

Right On!

(O.T. Scripture: Psalm 23)

LIKE JESUS APP Access Code: FIRS-6907

<https://likejesusapp.com?code=FIRS-6907>