



FOLLOWING JESUS IS SIMPLE—IT'S JUST NOT EASY!

Sticky Statement:
The Word of God was written NOT just to inform you BUT to transform you.

“Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.” Romans 12:2

Spiritually being transformed into the image of Jesus isn't something we do as much as it's something that is done to us by God—as we yield to his word & the work of his Holy Spirit in our lives.

ARE YOU BEING CONFORMED OR TRANSFORMED?

Are you willing to let Jesus “transform” you into the person he wants you to be?

“Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.” James 1:22

“For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints, and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.” Hebrews 4:12

5 steps to study the Word of God, so that you can become who God wants you to be:

- 1. CHOOSE A TRANSLATION YOU UNDERSTAND.**
- 2. FIND A TIME, PLACE AND PLAN TO STUDY.**

A plan might be...

Pick a book of the Bible, study a person of the bible, study a topic in the Bible or read a devotional or download a pla bible app on YouVersion.

3. UNDERSTAND THE CONTEXT OF WHAT YOU'RE READING.

Ask 3 simple questions to get the context.

Who wrote it? To whom was it written? What was the purpose?

¹“Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and fellow worker—² also to Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier—and to the church that meets in your home:
³ Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴ I always thank my God as I remember you in my prayers,⁵ because I hear about your love for all his holy people and your faith in the Lord Jesus. ⁶ I pray that your partnership with us in the faith may be effective in deepening your understanding of every good thing we share for the sake of Christ. ⁷ Your love has given me great joy and encouragement, because you, brother, have refreshed the hearts of the Lord's people. Philemon 1:3-7

4. READ SLOWLY AND ASK QUESTIONS.

Ask 2 Questions:

What does this say about God? What is God saying to me?

5. PRAY AND ASK GOD TO SPEAK AND APPLY WHAT HE SHOWS YOU.

⁸ Therefore, although in Christ I could be bold and order you to do what you ought to do, ⁹ yet I prefer to appeal to you on the basis of love. It is as none other than Paul—an old man and now also a prisoner of Christ Jesus—¹⁰ that I appeal to you for my son Onesimus, who became my son while I was in chains. ¹¹ Formerly he was useless to you, but now he has become useful both to you and to me.” Philemon 1:8-11

Onesimus = “useful and profitable”

Ask which person do you relate to most: Paul, who took a rick on someone. Onesimus, who needed forgiveness. Philemon, who's being called to forgive.

Relational Discipleship Moment: Conformed or Transformed

““Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.” Romans 12:2

Are you willing to allow Jesus to change you? What area, attitude, belief does Jesus want to transform in your life this morning. How can you move from “conformed to transformed?”