

# THE DISCIPLINES OF LIFE SERIES

DEVELOPING A LIFESTYLE THAT'S USABLE TO GOD

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER WNX-530 JANUARY 12, 2010

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

## THE DISCIPLINE OF DISEASE

*A PRACTICAL SERIES ON CHRISTIAN DISCIPLINES  
AND HOW WE SHOULD BE LIVING IN THE WORLD AROUND US*

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

**Christianity 101, Faith, Discernment, Discipleship**

**Introduction to the Text;**

**John 11:4**

### Matthew 28:18-20

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "**All authority** has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. **:19 Go therefore** and **make disciples** of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **:20 teaching them to observe all things** that I have commanded you; and behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the world."

### John 11:3-4

Therefore the Martha and Mary sent to Jesus, saying, "**Lord, behold, he whom You love is sick.**" **:4** When Jesus heard that, He said, "**This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it.**"

## Pain, Death, Suffering & Sorrow

It doesn't help at all if I were to say "it's all part of life"

**We Humans demand a better answer than that. That's why people**

**will often ask...** *If your God is a God of Love then*

*why is there so much suffering in the world.*

**What's Awesome About That Question Is  
That We Have It Within Ourselves to Ask It.**

## ??? How Do We Know That Things Should Be Better ???

### Genesis 2:16-17

And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; :17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for **in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.**"

It wouldn't be so bad if death just happened, painlessly, without event. But Life is filled with Suffering – and only then - Ultimately Death Itself.

THE **DISCIPLINE OF DISEASE** IS US LEARNING TO;  
**know** and **understand** the reason for our sicknesses.

### 1.) Understand that - **Life happens in a broken world**

### John 10:10-11

**The thief** does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have *it* more abundantly. :11 "I am the good shepherd. **The good shepherd** gives His life for the sheep.

## LIFE HAPPENS IN A BROKEN WORLD

### 1a.) Life is **subject to suffering** in this world

**The Entire Messianic Ministry of Jesus Christ  
Was the fulfillment of the Scriptures**

### Isaiah 35:4-6

say to those with fearful hearts, "Be strong, do not fear; your God will come, he will come with vengeance; with divine retribution he will come to save you." :5 Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. :6 Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy. Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert.

Why – Because of Human Suffering

### Matthew 4:23-24

And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people. :24 Then His fame went throughout all Syria; and they brought to Him all sick people who were afflicted with various diseases and torments, and those who were demon-possessed, epileptics, and paralytics; and He healed them.

### Matthew 8:14-17

Now when Jesus had come into Peter's house, He saw Peter's mother-in-law lying sick with a fever. :15 So He touched her hand, and the fever left her. And she arose and served them. :16 When evening had come, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. And He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick, :17 that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: "*He Himself took our infirmities And bore our sicknesses.*"

## LIFE HAPPENS IN A BROKEN WORLD

1b.) Life is **always bigger** than the issue

### The Bible Teaches "The Omniscience of God"

#### Hebrews 4:13

And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.

when we're threatened by pain and disease and sickness  
we too often retreat in unbelief – we abandon His promises, but He never abandons us.

#### Romans 8:37-39

Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. :38 For I am persuaded that neither **death** nor **life**... :39 shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

#### John 9:1-3

Now as *Jesus* passed by, He saw a man who was blind from birth. :2 And His disciples asked Him, saying, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" :3 Jesus answered, "**Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him.**"

# LIFE HAPPENS IN A BROKEN WORLD

## 1c.) Life is **never wasted** with God

*however – read the fine print. Life is easily wasted by man himself*

I saw a woman recently saying one of the most ridiculous things I think I've ever heard. She's been a lifelong smoker and while she was smoking, she was accusing God of being unfair because she has found out that she has lung cancer.

We Tend to Waste Life -  
But **God Never Does.**

### 2 Corinthians 7:4

Great *is* my boldness of speech toward you, great *is* my boasting on your behalf. I am filled with comfort. I am exceedingly joyful in all our tribulation.

### Psalm 119:67

Before I was afflicted I went astray, But now I keep Your word.

### Romans 8:28

And we know that **all things** work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

## ??? How Big is Your God ???

### Ephesians 2:10

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

## My Own Personal Testimony, For me

*“Whenever I feel like I’m getting sick or something is physically wrong, I will pray like this; (1) “Lord, if this illness **is from you** then please speak to me out of it - that I might hear from you.. (2) Lord, if this sickness **is not from you**, then I ask you Lord, in Jesus name to rebuke this attack against my life and take what my enemy has meant for evil and make it very good for me. (3) Lord, if this sickness **is from you** so that you might be glorified in it, grant me your grace to endure it*

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## 2.) Understand that - Sin is our greatest enemy

### Genesis 4:6-7

So the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen? :7 If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire *is* for you, but you should rule over it."

## SIN IS OUR GREATEST ENEMY

### 2a.) Sin brings separation *between ourselves*

### John 5:5-8,14

Now a certain man was there who had an infirmity thirty-eight years. :6 When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been *in that condition* a long time, He said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" :8 Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your bed and walk." :14 Afterward Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, "See, you have been made well. Sin no more, lest a worse thing come upon you."

### Romans 1:26-27

Because of this, God gave them over to their shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones. :27 In the same way their men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committing indecent acts with other men, and the result was they received in themselves the due penalty for their perversion. (disease)

## SIN IS OUR GREATEST ENEMY

### 2b.) Sin brings isolation *within ourselves*

### When Aaron & Miriam sinned against Moses

### Numbers 12:8-10

...Why then were you not afraid to speak against My servant Moses?" :9 So the anger of the LORD was aroused against them, and He departed. :10 And when the cloud departed from above the tabernacle, suddenly Miriam *became* leprous, as *white as* snow. Then Aaron turned toward Miriam, and there **she was, a leper.**

### Isaiah 59:1-2

Surely the arm of the LORD is not too short to save, nor his ear too dull to hear. :2 But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.

## SIN IS OUR GREATEST ENEMY

### 2c.) Sin brings judgment upon ourselves

#### 1 Corinthians 11:28-31

A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. :29 For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself. :30 That is why many among you are weak and sick, and a number of you have fallen asleep. :31 But if we judged ourselves, we would not come under judgment.

#### 1 Corinthians 5:1-8

It is **actually reported** that there is **sexual immorality** among you, and such sexual immorality as is not even named among the Gentiles - that is, a man has his father's wife! :2 And you are **puffed up**, and have not rather **mourned**, that he who has done this deed might be **taken away from among you**. :3 For I indeed, as absent in body but present in spirit, have **already judged** (as though I were present) him who has so done this deed. :4 **In the name** of our Lord Jesus Christ, when you are (a) **gathered together**, (b) along with my spirit, (c) with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ, :5 (d) **deliver** such a one to **Satan** for the **destruction of the flesh**, (e) that **his spirit may be saved** in the day of the Lord Jesus.

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### 3.) Understand that - Godliness is formed in us

#### 3a.) Godliness must be originated for us

**Godliness is to live in a "God-Like-Ness"**  
Meaning that, we're becoming more like Jesus

#### Colossians 1:27

To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

### Philippians 3:9-10

and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which *is* from the law, but that which *is* through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; :10 that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,

We Need His Touch If We're Going To  
Live Again.

He "originates" His Life in Us.

### Mark 5:39-42

When He came in, He said to them, "**Why make this commotion and weep? The child is not dead, but sleeping.**" :40 And they ridiculed Him. But when He had put them all outside, He took the father and the mother of the child, and those *who were* with Him, and entered where the child was lying. :41 Then He took the child by the hand, and said to her, "**Talitha, cumi,**" which is translated, "**Little girl, I say to you, arise.**" :42 Immediately the girl arose and walked, for she was twelve years *of age*. And they were overcome with great amazement.

## GODLINESS IS FORMED IN US

### 3b.) Godliness must be established in us

### James 1:2-4

My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, :3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. :4 But let patience have *its* perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

### 2 Corinthians 12:7-9

To keep me from becoming conceited because of these surpassingly great revelations, there was given me a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. :8 Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. :9 But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me.

### Isaiah 26:3

You will keep *him* in perfect peace, *Whose* mind *is* stayed on You,  
Because he trusts in You.

## GODLINESS IS FORMED IN US

### 3c.) Godliness must be displayed through us

#### John 11:23-26

Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." :24 Martha said to Him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day." :25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. :26 And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

Can I be Candid with You?

What are we thinking? We believe in God, we trust Jesus for Salvation. Our names are written down in the Lambs book of life, we can't get to heaven unless we die or the rapture occurs – and yet we struggle with the actuality of it all.

"What a Friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear! What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer! O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear, All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer."

- Joseph Scriven 1855 ad.

————— *End of Study* —————