

THE DISCIPLINES OF LIFE SERIES

DEVELOPING A LIFESTYLE THAT'S USABLE TO GOD

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

THE DISCIPLINE OF **DISILLUSIONMENT**

*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;

Luke 24:21

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."

Luke 24:21

But we were hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel. Indeed, besides all this, today is the third day since these things happened.

Note The Context of The Event;

It's Easter, Resurrection Sunday Afternoon and the Sun is Setting

Disillusionment:

The feeling that arises from the discovery that something is not what it was anticipated to be. Stronger than disappointment, disillusionment is the feeling of loss especially when a belief central to one's identity is shown to be false.

Satan Is the Master Craftsman of Disillusionment.

Though unable to "splash" us with it – He creates the ground work, the atmosphere for disillusionment to be formed in us.

Matthew 13:18-19

“Therefore hear the parable of the sower: **:19** When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, and does not understand it, then **the wicked one** comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart.

THE DISCIPLINE OF DISILLUSIONMENT

IS THE LEARNING TO RECOGNIZE AND TO RESIST THE ENEMIES OF OUR FAITH.

1.) Disillusionment deceives us by breeding confusion

Disillusionment Breeds Confusion

When we're disillusioned we become confused and confusion breeds fear.

Confusion Undermines Our Faith,
and the less faith we have, the greater the doubt, the greater our confusion.

**IN THE DAY OF BATTLE – ITS KEY THAT YOU
CONFUSE YOUR ENEMY'S COMMUNICATION ABILITIES.**

Ephesians 2:2

in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to **the prince of the power of the air**, (*atmospheric*) the spirit (*invisible*) who now works (*actively*) in the sons of disobedience,

Psalm 61:1-4

Hear my cry, O God; Attend to my prayer. **:2** From the end of the earth I will cry to You, When my heart is overwhelmed; Lead me to the rock that is higher than I. (*a pause in time. The psalmist waits*) **:3** For You have been a shelter for me, A strong tower from the enemy. **:4** I will abide in Your tabernacle forever; I will trust in the shelter of Your wings. **Selah**

1 John 4:18

There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made complete in love.

But What Do We Do When We “Think or Feel” that
It's the Lord Who has Brought Our Disillusionment
Upon Us?

James 1:12-13

Blessed *is* the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him. :13 Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone.

We Need to Recalculate and Refocus Our Thinking

Psalm 127:1

Unless the LORD builds the house, They labor in vain who build it; Unless the LORD guards the city, The watchman stays awake in vain.

So how do we get clear of **Confusion**?

1 John 5:3-6

For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome. :4 For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. :5 Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? :6 This is He who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not only by water, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth.

THE DISCIPLINE OF DISILLUSIONMENT

2.) Disillusionment deceives us by **generating doubt**

Disillusionment Generates **Doubt**

When we're disillusioned we lose faith and the loss of faith generates **doubt**.

1 Peter 1:3-7

Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, :4 to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, :5 who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. :6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, :7 that the genuineness of your faith, *being* much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ,

Satan Hates Our Faith in God.

Matthew 13:18-23

“Therefore hear the parable of the sower: **:19** When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, and does not understand it, then the wicked one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is he who received seed by the wayside. **:20** But he who received the seed on stony places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; **:21** yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he stumbles. **:22** Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful. **:23** But he who received seed on the good ground is he who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and produces: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.”

So how do we overcome **Doubt?**

WE'RE TO STAY “FOCUSED-HARD” ON BUILDING UP OUR FAITH EVERY DAY WE LIVE

Matthew 14:26-31

And when the disciples saw Jesus walking on the sea, they were **troubled**, saying, “It is a ghost!” And they cried out for **fear**. **:27** But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, “**Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid.**” **:28** And Peter answered Him and said, “Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water.” **:29** So He said, “**Come.**” And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus. **:30** But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, “Lord, save me!” **:31** And immediately Jesus stretched out *His* hand and caught him, and said to him, “**O you of little faith, why did you doubt?**”

#1 - Receiving The Word of God into Our Hearts. #2 - Putting Ourselves Out Into Those places Where Faith Must Be Exercised.

THE DISCIPLINE OF DISILLUSIONMENT

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3.) Disillusionment deceives us by **causing regret**

Disillusionment Causes **Regret**

When we're disillusioned we become regretful and regret causes **bitterness**.

Regret is a Trap, like Quicksand it will
pull you down & under

When we have hoped in others, in their wisdom and their might the “strong arm
of man”, we can easily enter into regret and bitterness.

Psalm 108:12

Give us help from trouble, For the help of man is useless.

Hebrews 12:12-15

Therefore strengthen the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees, :13 and make
straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be *dislocated*, but rather be healed.
:14 Pursue peace with all *people*, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord: :15
looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing
up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled;

Ephesians 4:29-32

Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification,
that it may impart grace to the hearers. :30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by
whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. :31 Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor,
and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. :32 And be kind to one another,
tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.

So how do we stop the **Bitterness**?

Matthew 6:14-15

“For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. :15 But if
you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

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4.) Disillusionment deceives us by building walls

“Just keep on handing me another brick and I will build a wall so high and so thick that you'll
never be able to hurt me again.” – *signed: Ms. Lonely*

The Problem With That is – you weren't created
for that kind of life.

Disillusionment Builds Walls

When we're disillusioned we build walls and building walls causes **loneliness**.

"Maybe you have felt His heavy hand on you and you're more like a bird in a cage than a free and liberated soul that you are. Remember this, The Lord's hard word is not His last word."

Psalm 30:5

For His anger is but for a moment, His favor is for life; Weeping may endure for a night,
But joy comes in the morning.

Psalm 42:1-6

As the deer pants for the water brooks, So pants my soul for You, O God. :2 My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God? :3 My tears have been my food day and night, While they continually say to me, "Where is your God?" :4 When I remember these *things*, I pour out my soul within me. For I used to go with the multitude; I went with them to the house of God, With the voice of joy and praise, With a multitude that kept a pilgrim feast. :5 Why are you cast down, O my soul? And *why* are you disquieted within me? Hope in God, for I shall yet praise Him *For* the help of His countenance. :6 O my God, my soul is cast down within me; Therefore I will remember You from the land of the Jordan, And from the heights of Hermon, From the Hill Mizar.

Disillusionment is Destroyed by Three Golden Spikes.

#1 – choosing to become **fearless** again. #2 – choosing to become **obedient** again.

#3 – choosing to become **trusting** again !

So how do we escape from **Loneliness**?

Galatians 5:13-14

For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not *use* liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but **through love serve one another**. :14 For all the law is fulfilled in one word, *even* in this: "*You shall love your neighbor as yourself.*"

John 13:34-35

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. :35 By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

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So how do we **get clear of Confusion**?

So how do we **overcome Doubt**?
So how do we **stop the Bitterness**?

So how do we **escape from Loneliness?**

Here's The Bomb...

Matthew 16:24

Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.

1 Peter 2:19-21

For God is pleased with you when, for the sake of your conscience, you patiently endure unfair treatment. :20 Of course, you get no credit for being patient if you are beaten for doing wrong. But if you suffer for doing right and are patient beneath the blows, God is pleased with you. :21 This suffering is all part of what God has called you to. Christ, who suffered for you, is your example. Follow in his steps.

Leave It @ The Cross Tonight

End of Study