LAB: simple but not necessarily easy

- 1. Three times this week spend time with God with your journal.

 Keep showing up there will be times when don't hear from God. But if you keep showing up, you WILL hear from God. Make notes of what happens or doesn't happen. Important thing is that you are there.
- NOTE: there will be days when you don't hear from God but the practice of showing up and being open will allow you to hear when **He** determines. That will only strengthen and deepen your relationship with Him as a firm foundation to lean into Him whatever comes.
- 2. **Ask the Lord for fellow disciples.** Be open to whoever He brings.
- 3. **Keep going!** God WANTS to communicate with you. He WILL speak and lead you to experiencing Him.

TAKEAWAYS



Presence-Centered Discipleship

by Pastor David Treloar

Session 6: Hunger

Session objective: Understand the Presence of God means (and why we're chasing after it together) and highlight one of our crucial responsibilities in the discipleship process.

Last week's assignments: Raising awareness

- 1. Think about something that is causing you to feel pressure.
 - → Ask, "is the Lord trying to get my attention through repeated feelings and thoughts?"
 - → Walk through the 3 steps above, write down answers
- 2. Choose a Bible passage.
 - → Ask, "Lord, would you teach me something about that passage?"
 - → Read it.
 - → Read it a second or third time, or every day for a few days
 - → Ask the question again. Listen & write down what comes to mind or what you feel. Continue conversation with more questions.

Session 1 - 4 Descriptions of disciple

- ₱ SLOW down to hear the voice of God
- ₱ PROCESS what they hear with the Lord and with others
- $\ensuremath{\$}$ RESPOND to/OBEY the things they hear/ order life by God's instructions
- ↑ TEACH others how to follow Jesus
- Session 2 God still speaks and WANTS to speak to us
- **Session 3** Triangle and Journal as tools
- Session 4 Being a disciple of Christ is in the context of community
- **Session 5** Reorienting to God in the midst of life's pressure

Session 6: Hunger

The more we spend time in God's Presence, the more likely we will become like Him

Luke 6:40 (ESV) ⁴⁰A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher.

What we're after in PCD is chasing after God's Presence to be transformed by doing so



- 2 Different Kinds of Presence a very important distinction
 - **1. Omnipresence of God –** an *attribute* of God, God is present everywhere all the time.

Psalm 139:7-10

Acts 17:24

Matthew 28:18-20

2. Manifest Presence of God – an *activity* of God, God working in an obvious way, "shows up" so that people see it.

New Song, "when HR (Heavenly Realm) shows in the ER (Earthly Realm) in a tangible, observable way.

When the unseen becomes seen, when the unheard becomes heard

Genesis 18:1-2

Isaiah 6:1-2

Acts 2:1-4

As disciples we know God is omnipresent as part of His nature, but we want God's manifest Presence as we follow as disciples.

James 4:8 (ESV) ⁸Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

Who moves first?

Believers: people move toward God then God responds

Lost people: God is the first mover because people are incapable of moving to God without Him drawing them to Himself.

For a disciple, God does not force it, but waits for us to exercise our free will to connect with to him. The question: WILL we move toward Him - it's our choice.

Central issue: **HUNGER**. Are we actually hungry for God?

Truth: We hunger for what we feed ourselves

Application: after we do something we're not proud of, we don't want to go to God with it because we are not hungering for Him but for other things.

If we are feeding ourselves negativity, we actually hunger for more of it **whether we say we want it or not.** If we feed on time with God, we will hunger for more of that.

Psalm 42:1–2 (ESV) ¹As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God. ²My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God?

STEWARD YOUR HUNGER - if want to become a Presence Centered Disciple you must steward your hunger - if you want more of God's Presence, you must spend more time in His Presence.

A deeper desire to spend time with God, learn from Him, experience Him ONLY comes when we take the time to spend time with Him. It is not a given, it is not something that just happens. Spending more time with God will lead itself to wanting to spend more time with Him

HERB: absolutely true!! The more time with God, the more pleasurable and satisfying it becomes... thus the more desire grows for it!

CHALLENGE: What are you hungry for? And how do you know?
You can change your diet... change the things you hunger for.
You can leave unhealthy things behind. It is hard to do, but you CAN do it. If you spend more time with God you will start wanting it.