



THE RELATIONAL DISCIPLE

FOCUSING ON CHRIST

Focusing on Christ

Discipleship groups purpose: Each member being transformed into the image of the Son.

Key Truth: Abundant Life is primarily found by keeping our eyes on the Creator and not the creation.

Read: Our natural fleshly inclination is to focus on the creation or ourselves, rather than on the Creator. When we look to ourselves for life or even towards others, our eyes have drifted off Christ, our true life source and living hope and onto a false life source, that promises much, but ultimately delivers nothing.

To truly be a relational disciple the way God intends, one must firstly be devoted to developing the greatest relationship with the most relational person there is - Jesus. Our relationship with Christ must trump every relationship we have with anyone else, and be first in our lives, no matter who they are. God is no respecter of man, if man's ways are prioritised ahead of His own.

God still loves us and His desire is that He would be the one we love the most and live our lives with and for, ahead of anyone or anything else. The key to live like this is keeping our eyes firmly fixed on Christ, choosing His Will above our own, no matter what life brings our way

Hebrews 12:1-2

¹ Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Questions:

1. Why is it essential our eyes are firstly fixed and focused on Christ, before looking at oneself or others?
2. What is the damaging impact to ourselves and others if our eyes are not fixed and focused on Christ firstly?
3. What does it mean that Jesus is the author and perfecter of faith? To answer this question read Hebrews 11:1 as to what biblical faith is?
4. If our faith is being perfected by the author, what kind of life can we expect to be experiencing?
5. What are some of the reasons we may not be experiencing this life we have described?
6. Are there areas of our lives we need to repent of and start allowing God in to change our hearts?

Pray and encourage one another to press in to all God has for us.