

MARKS OF A DISCIPLE

Bible Study – Part II
Trinity Baptist Church, Columbus, OH
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ASSUMPTIONS

- Repentant Life
 - Healthy Habits
 - Eternally Minded
 - Generous Living
 - Theologically Sound
 - Missional Heart
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THE CURRENT STATE OF DISCIPLESHIP

Am I spiritually healthy enough to reproduce?

Matthew 16:24-26

Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ²⁵ For whoever would save his life^[a] will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul?

FAILURES THAT WEAKEN DEEP DISCIPLESHIP

#1 EMOTIONAL IMMATURITY

Matthew 22:34-40 (NIV)

The Greatest Commandment

³⁴ Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. ³⁵ One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: ³⁶ “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?” ³⁷ Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’^[a] ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

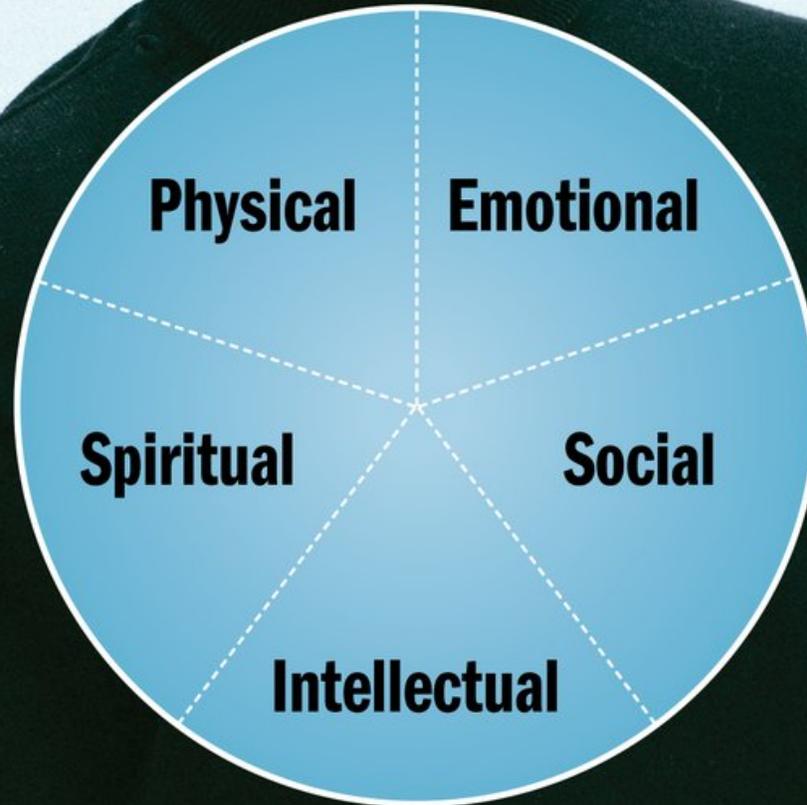
EMOTIONAL VS SPIRITUAL

- ▶ You can be a gifted speaker for God in public and be a detached spouse and angry parent at home
- ▶ You can function as a leader and yet be unteachable, insecure and defensive
- ▶ You can fast and pray regularly and remain critical and judgmental of others, justifying it as discernment.
- ▶ You can lead people “for God,” when your primary motive is your unhealthy need to be admired and wanted by others.
- ▶ You can serve tirelessly in the ministry negating self care and personal time

HOW DO WE TOLERATE EMOTIONAL IMMATURITY AS A DISCIPLE?

- We No longer Measure Our Love for God by the Degree to Which We Love Others
- We Elevate the Spiritual and Distrust the Emotional

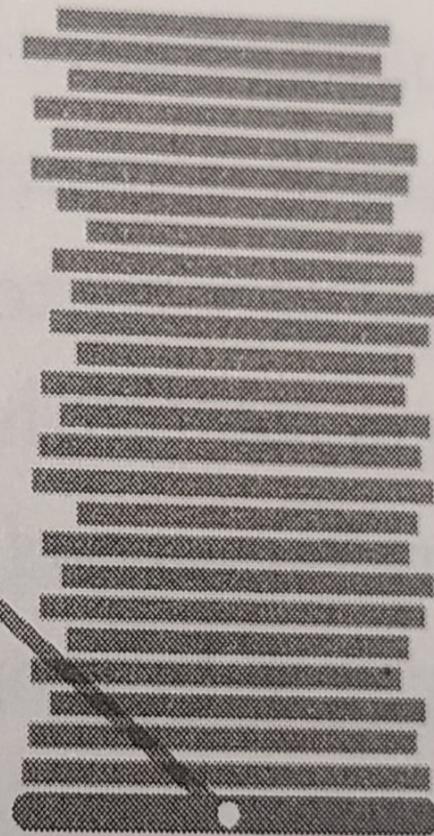
5 ASPECTS OF BEING HUMAN



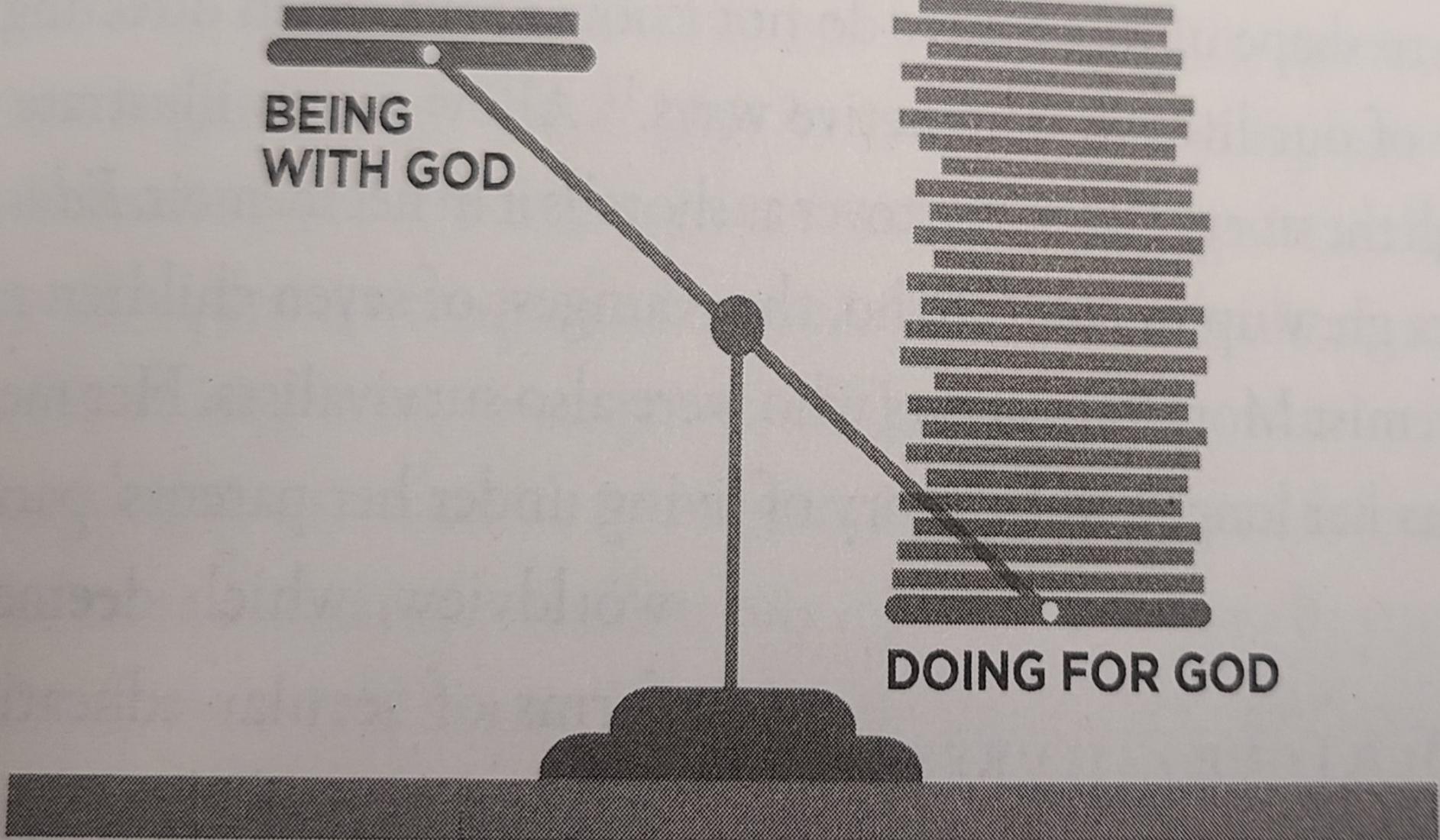
#2 WE EMPHASIZE DOING FOR GOD OVER BEING WITH GOD

- ▶ Martha-Mary Syndrome (Luke 10:39-42)
- ▶ Work vs Worship

**BEING
WITH GOD**



DOING FOR GOD



#3 WE DEFINE SUCCESS WRONGLY

- ▶ What is the definition of success according to our culture?
- ▶ What is the definition of success according to scripture?

John 15:1-8 “I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. ² He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes^[a] so that it will be even more fruitful. ³ You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴ Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. ⁵ “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. ⁷ If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

Success, according to Scripture, is becoming the person God calls you to become, and doing what God calls you to do – in his way, and according to his timetable.

ABIDING AND ABOUNDING IN HIM

#4 EMPHASIZE SPIRITUAL GIFTS OVER SPIRITUAL FRUIT

Galatians 5:22-23

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

#5 EMPHASIZE TRADITION OVER TRANSFORMATION

TRADITIONAL



TRANSFORMATIVE



The Journey with Jesus

The discipleship pathway

