

What's happening beneath the surface of our behavior?

(Matthew 6:19-21; Luke 6:43-45)

Diagnostic Questions:

- ✓ What do I fear losing the most?
- ✓ What do I become angry or defensive about?
- ✓ What do I daydream about for happiness?
- ✓ What do I run to for comfort when life is hard?
- ✓ What makes me feel valuable or worthless?

Follow your Inordinate/Inconsolable emotions back to their source.

How do spiritual disciplines actually help us grow?

(1 Timothy 4:7-8; John 15:4-5)

Spiritual disciplines are not ways to earn God's favor. They are means of Grace—practices God uses to make the truth of what Jesus has done for us real at the point of our need.

Gospel Replacement Principle of Discipleship:

(Psalm 16:4, 11; Colossians 3:1-5)

You don't overcome idols by simply removing desire—you overcome idols by re-directing desire. Disciplines help us replace idols with a greater affection for Jesus.

Conclusion: A Growing Christian Is a Re-Directed Worshiper.

The more we behold Christ, the less power our idols have. 2Cor.3:18

Don't ask, "What do I need to stop doing?" **Ask**, "What am I loving more than Jesus—and how does the gospel call me back?" Rom.2:4

Growing Notes

Opening Reflection: When you hear the word discipleship, what emotions or assumptions come to mind?

Gospel Motivation: In what ways can fear or pride subtly motivate obedience in your life? How does understanding Christ's sacrificial love change your motivation for obedience?

Idolatry and the Heart: How would you define an idol in your own words? Which diagnostic questions in the sermon were most revealing for you? Why?

Spiritual Disciplines: How have you previously viewed spiritual disciplines—duty, delight, or something else? Which discipline most helps you experience the gospel at the point of your need?

Application: What is one idol the Holy Spirit may be exposing in your heart right now? What practical step can you take this week to replace that idol with a deeper love for Jesus? Pray.



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DO YOU NEED PRAYER?

- >Elders/Pastors available after every service to pray with you.
 - >Call the church office to be added to the prayer chain.
 - >Sunday night prayer meeting 6pm, in the lobby
- >Elders meeting 3rd Wed. monthly, Elders available for prayer and anointing.

James 5:14 *Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.*



Our Café is open 45 minutes before each service. You can order online through the QR code below.



REGISTRATIONS

Check out our website for upcoming events @ dbcc.com
Please register for classes that require Childcare

Church office hours: Mon-Thurs 9am - 3pm 602-374-4588

We are thankful for your prayerful, consistent and faithful giving.

Weekly Giving Jan.10/11

Actual \$40,315 - Budget \$31,000 - YTD AVG \$35,852

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When we talk about growth in the Christian life, most people immediately think about behavior—what we do or don't do. But Scripture teaches us that real growth is not merely external improvement; it is internal transformation.

Spiritual growth is not measured by how much Scripture we know, but by how deeply Scripture transforms our hearts making us more like Christ.

The GROWING Christian (Lives God's Word) Discipleship
Big Idea: Discipleship is not behavior modification but heart transformation as the gospel replaces our idols with Christ.

What truly motivates life change?

(2 Corinthians 5:14-15; Titus 2:11-14)

The gospel is not a morally restrained will (motivated by fear/pride)—it is a supernaturally transformed heart (motivated by Christ's **sacrificial love** for us).

We don't obey to earn God's approval; we obey because we **already have it** in Christ.

This is the foundation of discipleship: **Christ-centered** motivation, not self-centered effort.

Why do we keep struggling with the same sins?

(Ezekiel 14:3; Jer.2:13; Romans 1:21-25)

The Bible repeatedly points to one root issue: **idolatry**

An idol is anything we look to for ultimate meaning, security, joy, or identity apart from God. Idols aren't just statues or false religions—they are often good things turned into **ultimate things**.

At the heart of every persistent sin is a **misplaced love** (Worship).

We don't just break God's commands—we **replace** God with something else. That's why behavior modification alone never lasts. You can stop a behavior temporarily, but unless the heart changes, the idol **remains**.