



**New International Version is used for questions**

1. Pastor Rick said that there are three differences between salvation and discipleship, what were they? If you have been saved by faith in Christ alone, does that mean that you will automatically follow Christ in obedience and become a disciple? Why or why not? What will a person have to do once they are a Christian to become a disciple?
2. The Bible says we were created in the image of God, what does that mean? What are we taught about humans in our society? What has been the result of this teaching? Read Psalm 139:13-16. What do you think David meant when he said God made his inmost being? When did he do this? What modern practice does this show is wrong?
3. What does God use to shape our character so we become more like Christ? Can you think of examples of how God has used these things to shape your character?
4. Read Hebrews 4:12. How are the words of God in the Bible different from any other words in any other book? What does this verse say the word of God does? Read Jeremiah 17:9,10. Based on what this passage says, why do we need the word of God to do what Hebrews 4:12 says it does?
5. What are the three things God uses to transform us? How do each of these accomplish this transformation? Can you give an example from your life how God has changed you in each of these ways?
6. How are you more like Jesus now than you were when you became a Christian? What has been the best thing about being a follower of Christ? What has been the hardest thing?

long process, b. Faith alone for salvation is different than faithfulness, and c. Discipleship is a moment-by-moment struggle to be like Jesus, salvation from the penalty of your sin is a one-time event. Just because you are a Christian does not mean that you will be a disciple of Jesus, being a disciple requires a person to on a daily basis make the choice to follow Jesus, the Holy Spirit does not force us to do anything in obedience to Christ, that is our decision. That is why Christ said you must pick up your cross daily and follow him. You choose to pick it up or not every single day. Some days you will, some days you won't.

2. To be created in the image of God first of all means that we are an eternal being just like God, there is part of us that will exist forever. The next way is that God is a person, so we are persons. What makes a person is that you have an intellect, you can reason; you have a will, you can make choices, even if what you choose is bad for you; and thirdly you have emotions, you can feel. In our society we are told that we are just material in motion, we are no different than anything else, we are just a product of random chance in nature and when we die, that is the end of our existence. What this has done is that we have cheapened the value of human life, we are no different than animals. In Psalm 139, when David said that God created his inmost being, he is referring to his soul, the part that is a person and lasts forever, God is involved in the creation of each baby in the womb of a mother. This refutes abortion which says we are just removing a blob of tissue that has no value. The people who argue for abortion only talk about the physical part of a fetus, they never talk about the part of a person that God attaches to that fetus that makes them a person while still in the womb, so abortion is killing a person God created.
3. God uses The Holy Spirit, the Word of God, other people, and the circumstances in life you experience.
4. This verse says that the word of God has actual power, it can actively change whatever it comes into contact with. It is God's word that pierces into our mind and can expose the source and quality of our thoughts and intentions for why we do what we do. Jeremiah says that the human heart is deceitful and desperately wicked. That is because of our sinful nature which has corrupted every part of us as humans. We are masters of self deception and we rationalize our sin in our own minds. Only God knows what is truly in the human heart and without the power of God's word exposing this sinfulness, we would not and could not be a disciple of Christ
5. The three things God uses to transform us is: a. the truth, it is what reveals to us what needs to be transformed in our lives and how to do it; b. Our troubles which are what gives us the opportunity to apply the truth to real life situations which is what transformation is; and c. our temptations which force us to rely on God and learn how to refuse the desires of our sinful nature which produces holiness within us.