

## 40 Days of Purpose 6<sup>th</sup> October 2024

### Week 4 – Created to become like Christ

“For God knew his people in advance, and he chose them to become like his Son...”  
Romans 8:29

“Then we will no longer be immature like children...<sup>15</sup> growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church.” Ephesians 4:14-15

### My 3<sup>rd</sup> Purpose in life is to become like Christ – Discipleship

“And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.” Romans 8:28

#### Three unexpected tools

##### 1. God uses trouble to teach us to trust him

“We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance. <sup>4</sup>And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation. <sup>5</sup>And this hope will not lead to disappointment.” Romans 5:3-4

Jesus said, “Sit here while I go and pray.” <sup>33</sup>... he became deeply troubled and distressed. <sup>34</sup>He told them, “My soul is crushed with grief to the point of death.” Mark 14:32-34

“Abba, Father,” he cried out, “everything is possible for you. Please take this cup of suffering away from me. Yet I want your will to be done, not mine.” Mark 14:36

- **Keep a spiritual journal**

“At the Lord’s direction, Moses kept a written record of their progress.” Numbers 33:2

- **Remember the reward**

“For our present troubles are small and won’t last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever!” 2 Cor 4:17

##### 2. God uses temptations to teach us to obey him

“Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted there by the devil.” Matthew 4:1

“Get out of here, Satan,” Jesus told him. “For the Scriptures say, ‘You must worship the Lord your God and serve only him.’” Matthew 4:10

- **Keep focused on good thoughts**

“Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honourable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable.” Phil 4:8a

- **Get a spiritual partner**

“Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. <sup>10</sup>If one person falls, the other can reach out and help.” Eccle 4:9-10

##### 3. God uses pain caused by others to teach us to forgive

“The people passing by shouted abuse, shaking their heads in mockery...and the elders also mocked Jesus...<sup>44</sup>Even the revolutionaries who were crucified with him ridiculed him in the same way.” Matthew 27\_39-44

‘Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they don’t know what they are doing.”’  
Luke 23:34

- **Remember God has forgiven me**

“Instead, be kind to each other, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.” Eph 4:32

- **Remember God is in control**

“You intended to harm me, but God intended it all for good. He brought me to this position so I could save the lives of many people.” Genesis 50:20

“And since we are his children, we are his heirs. In fact, together with Christ we are heirs of God’s glory. But if we are to share his glory, we must also share his suffering.”  
Romans 8:17

“You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had.” Philippians 2:5