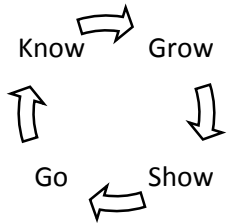


Series: Disciple

Part 5: Growing with God

Sunday Oct. 18, 2015

1.



2. How and when and where do you think you may have experienced God this past week?

3. Shon Hopwood. Here's the link to his story in *Christianity Today*:
www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2014/april/gods-hot-pursuit-of-armed-bank-robber.html



4. Imitation is much more than flattery.

Paul urged us to imitate him... just as he imitates Christ (1 Cor. 4:16; 11:1) – and he urged all believers to be “imitators of God” (Eph. 5:1).

Why?

5. **Imitation of God allows us to know God by shared-experience.**

6. **Imitation of God conforms us to His will.**

Study Notes

DISCUSSION

1. Read the story of Shon Hopwood as reported by *Christianity Today*. What did you find most fascinating about his story? What effect did his story have on you – esp. as it relates to your faith?

2. How and when and where do you think you may have experienced God this past week? What makes you think that it was an encounter with God?

INTO THE BIBLE

1. We need to continually remind ourselves that our salvation is not earned or deserved but provided by God through His Son. Read Eph. 2:8-9. How are we saved?

- ☐ By the things we do
- ☐ By the things we do and by faith
- ☐ By faith alone

2. Paul says that we are to *work out our salvation with fear and trembling* (Phil. 2:12) and James says that *faith without deeds is dead* (Jas. 2:26). Compare these verses with Eph. 2:8-9.

APPLICATION

Paul says, “...whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God” (1 Cor. 10:31). How does this verse apply to...

- ☐ Money
- ☐ Clothes
- ☐ Sex
- ☐ Power
- ☐ Sports/Recreation

What might God be asking you to do (as a next step in your friendship with Him) that would bring Him glory? Why would doing so be a win-win?