BELONG. **MATURE**. LEAD

B.M.L

DISCIPLESHIP JOURNEY

WISDOM, DISCERNMENT, & DECISION-MAKING

Anchor Scriptures: *Proverbs 3:5–6, James 1:5, Hebrews 5:14, Philippians 1:9–10, Proverbs 11:14*

CORE TRUTH:

A mature disciple does not make decisions based only on _____, _____, popularity, or opportunity.

A mature disciple learns to recognize God's _____ and make decisions that:

- Honor God's _____
- Protect _____
- Advance His _____

KINGDOM PRINCIPLE:

Maturity is not simply knowing _____ from _____.

Maturity is developing the _____ to recognize what is right for this moment.

TRANSFORMATION STATEMENT

"If it _____ right or looks good, I'll do it."

TO

"I will seek God's _____ before making decisions that affect my life and others."

1. KNOWLEDGE, WISDOM & DISCERNMENT

Knowledge: "What is _____?"

- Knowledge gives us _____.

Wisdom: How should I _____ what is true?"

- Wisdom gives us _____.

Discernment: “What is really happening here, and what response _____ God?”

- Discernment gives us spiritual _____.

JAMES 1:5 (NCV) But if any of you needs _____, you should ask God for it. He is generous to everyone and will give you wisdom without criticizing you.

SOMETIMES WISDOM SAYS:

- _____
- Pray
- Get _____
- Don’t respond yet

Not every text deserves an immediate _____.
Not every criticism deserves an _____.
Not every opportunity requires a _____.

Maturity gives me permission to _____ down long enough to hear _____.

2.FEELINGS ARE REAL – BUT THEY ARE NOT LORD

God created us with _____.

- Feelings make terrible _____.
- We can feel afraid and still _____ God.
- We can feel angry and still respond with _____.
- We can feel excited about an opportunity and still discover that God is saying _____.

Maturity means my feelings no longer have the final _____.
My emotions can _____ me, but they cannot _____ me. Jesus is Lord.

3. EVERY OPEN DOOR ISN’T GOD’S DOOR

Just because an opportunity appears does not automatically mean _____ sent it.
Something can be good, but still have the:

- Wrong _____
- Wrong _____
- Wrong _____

Mature disciples ask: “_____ I?”
“Is this God’s _____?”

Jesus was not controlled by:

- _____
- Pressure
- People's _____

He knew His _____.

- Every _____ is not my assignment.
- Every _____ is not mine to solve.
- Every _____ is not mine to accept.

Sometimes one of the most spiritual words I can say is: "_____."

Not because we're selfish.

Because we're _____.

FIVE FILTERS FOR KINGDOM DECISIONS

FILTER 1 – THE WORD

- What does the _____ say?
- If Scripture clearly speaks to the matter, I already have _____.

FILTER 2 – PRAYER

- Have I _____ or just reacted?
- Prayer is not: "Lord, _____ what I've already decided."
- Prayer is: "Lord, what do _____ want?"

FILTER 3 – THE HOLY SPIRIT

- What is the Holy Spirit _____?
- The Spirit leads us into _____.
- Discernment grows with _____.

Hebrews 5:14 (NIV) - But solid food is for the _____, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish _____ from _____.

FILTER 4 – WISE COUNSEL

- What does wise _____ say?
- Not everybody needs a _____ in my life.

Proverbs 11:14 (KJV)- Where no counsel is, the people fall: But in the multitude of counsellors there is _____.

Sometimes God uses _____ to expose something I cannot see myself.

SCENARIO

Someone hurts you, and you want to CONFRONT them.

Filter 1 – Word

What does the scripture say?

What's the end goal?

_____ – or – _____?

Filter 2 – Prayer

Have I ACTUALLY _____?

Or have I already _____?

Filter 3 – Holy Spirit

After praying, what am I sensing?

Peaceful _____? Or let it _____?

Filter 4 – Counsel

Who can speak _____ into this with no bias?

Filter 5 – Fruit

If I handle this from _____, what will it produce?

If I handle this with _____ & _____, what could it produce?

GREATER INFLUENCE REQUIRES GREATER DISCERNMENT

Last week we learned:

Our lives have _____.

When our influence increases, our decisions stop affecting only _____.

God doesn't just need _____ people – He needs _____ people.

People who know:

- When to _____
- When to wait
- When to _____
- When to remain quiet
- When to say _____
- When to say _____

The greater the _____, the greater the need for _____.

6.DISCERNMENT DOESN'T MEAN OVERTHINKING EVERYTHING

- There's a difference between _____ and _____.
- Discernment is not endlessly analyzing a decision because we're afraid of making the _____ choice.
- Maturity also means knowing when it's time to stop _____ and _____.
- Discernment isn't the elimination of _____.
- Sometimes it's having enough _____ to move forward without having every _____.

FINAL QUESTION

"Am I willing to _____ God even if His answer is different from what I _____?"

RESTORE DECLARATION

I belong to _____.
His _____ guides me.
His Holy Spirit _____ me.
I will not be ruled by _____, _____, or _____.
I will seek _____ before I decide.
I will trust God when I don't have the _____ yet.
I will _____ God even when His answer is not what I expected.
My decisions will _____ God and reflect _____.

AFTER SERVICE REFLECTION:

What did God teach me tonight about wisdom, discernment, and decision-making?

Is there an area where I have been relying more on my own understanding than God's wisdom?

What decision do I need to slow down and bring before God?

AFTER SERVICE REFLECTION:

Which of the five decision filters—Word, Prayer, Spirit, Counsel, or Fruit—do I need to strengthen most?

Are my feelings influencing a decision more than God's truth?

AFTER SERVICE REFLECTION:

How can the decisions I make help protect unity and relationships?

Additional Notes: