

A scenic view of a stone arch bridge over a river in a forest with autumn foliage. The bridge is made of dark stone and has a decorative railing with star-shaped patterns. The water is calm and reflects the bridge and the surrounding trees. The trees have some autumn-colored leaves, and the overall atmosphere is peaceful and serene.

Welcome to

The Bridge

**Belonging, Believing,
Becoming**

Created to Become

Philippians 2:5

- God does not want religious duty, He wants a loving relationship with us.
- God's plan for your life has always been, to make you like Jesus Christ.
- Discipleship is the process of spiritual growth to make us like Jesus.

- Just like it takes years for a baby to grow to adulthood, **DISCIPLESHIP IS A LIFELONG PROCESS.**

1. GOD USES TROUBLE TO TEACH US TO TRUST HIM.

- God wants to use the pain of our problems to draw us closer to Him.
- God wants to use the troubles we face in life to build our character and faith.

- God wants to develop your character, not your career, to make you more Christ-like not more comfortable.
- Instead of asking, “Why me Lord” you should ask, “What now Lord?”
- EVERY PROBLEM HAS A PURPOSE.

2. GOD USES TEMPTATION TO TEACH US TO OBEY HIM.

- Temptations are situations designed by Satan intended to harm us and lead us into sin.
- Our own EVIL DESIRE is the starting place.
- God uses temptation to teach us obedience;

a. Temptation is common to all of us;

b. God will not let temptation destroy you.

c. Temptation comes with an exit;

- It is not a *sin* to be tempted.
- You will never *outgrow* temptation.
- Temptation brings with it a *choice*.

- Whatever temptation you face will uncover who or what you love the most.
- Focus on good thoughts.
- Get a spiritual partner.

3. GOD USES TRESPASES TO TEACH US TO FORGIVE.

- God wants to use these trespasses to teach us to forgive.
- Yet God used the inhumanity of man towards Jesus to teach us how to forgive.
- He absorbed the hurt. He put up with the pain. He responded to evil with good.

a. Remember God has forgiven us.

b. Remember God is still in control.

- You may not see what God is doing yet, but trust Him.
- God won't leave the work He has started in you unfinished..He will complete it.