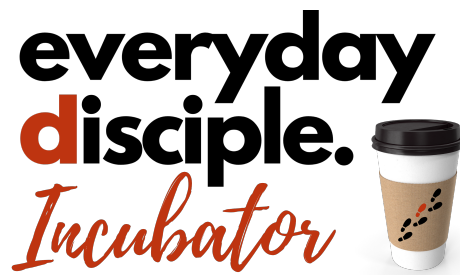


Module 12

Beginnings of Gospel Fluency





Module 12 | Beginnings of Gospel Fluency

There's got to be more to all of this...

When we were a bit younger in our Christian faith, my wife and I were taught the gospel of “forgiveness now” and then try to sin a little less while you wait for “heaven later”. This type of “good news” didn’t touch down very much in our marriage, parenting, or at work... *now*.

And most of our friends were too busy with their lives to be very interested in this “wait for eternity” faith we offered.

But you know what? The gospel actually does speak into all of life. Here, today.

When we woke up to this, and started growing in Gospel Fluency, our opportunity to experience grace, forgiveness and relational connections of depth moved from ‘waiting to get to heaven’—to now seeing and experiencing a little bit (or a lot) of heaven today. And every day.

everyday
disciple.

Gospel Fluency is the ability to
naturally and confidently **speak**,
live and **enjoy** the Gospel
in **every** area of life.

Where Does Sin Come From?

“Sinful acts always have their origin in some form of unbelief—
behind every sin is a lie. The root of all our behavior and
emotions is the heart, what it trusts and what it treasures.
People are given over to sinful desires because ‘they exchanged
the truth of God for a lie’“ – Tim Chester, *You Can Change**

“They exchanged the truth about God for a lie...” Romans 1:25

“Everything that does not come from faith is sin.” Romans 14:23

The 4 G's

Four eternal truths about God, that when not fully believed, lead to every human sin:

God is Great... so I don't have to be in control.

God is Glorious... so I don't have to fear others.

God is Good... so I don't have to look elsewhere for my satisfaction.

God is Gracious... so I don't have to prove myself.

Your thoughts: _____

****You Can Change: God's Transforming Power for Our Sinful Behavior and Negative Emotions, Crossway Books***

Heart Check

Which of the 4 Gs do you struggle most to believe the truth about God?

How is it affecting your life and relationships?

How would your relationship with God change if you moved from unbelief to belief in this area?

How would your relationship with others change if you moved from unbelief to belief in this area?

Idol Check

Idols are anything or anyone in our life that we put above God, in any way. Our hearts are like idol factories; we hardly go a moment without placing our hope or trust in something or someone other than Jesus to fulfill us or make us whole.

Or we “serve” idols that give us the feelings or status we long for. We can learn to identify the idols of the heart that seek to control us, and speak gospel truth into those dark and destructive beliefs and desires. Ultimately, Jesus is the greater, the more glorious, the better and most gracious one who crushes the idols of our heart.



Take a look at these four idols that many others emerge and grow from. Then notice which of the 4 G's sets us free from this idol. ¹

¹ This is adapted from Tim Keller, *Preaching to the Heart*

CONTROL

Desire: Self-discipline, certainty, standards

Price We Will Pay: Overworked, Loneliness

Greatest Nightmare: Uncertainty

Others Often Feel: Condemned, pushed

Problem Emotion: Worry, fear

God is Great...so I don't have to be in control (of people or situations). Jesus was raised from the dead when it seemed that all was lost.

APPROVAL

Desire: Affirmation, love, relationship

Price We Will Pay: Inauthenticity, codependency

Greatest Nightmare: Rejection

Others Often Feel: Smothered

Problem Emotion: Insecurity

God is Glorious...so I don't have to fear others. Jesus took our rejection and earned us full approval before the Father.

COMFORT

Desire: Privacy, lack of stress, freedom, easy life

Price We Will Pay: Ineffectiveness, selfishness

Greatest Nightmare: Stress, demands, pain or loss

Others Often Feel: Hurt

Problem Emotion: Boredom, discontentment

God is Good...So I don't have to look elsewhere for my satisfaction. Jesus is the Father's greatest gift to us and he is enough.

POWER

Desire: Success, influence

Price We Will Pay: Burdened, responsibility

Greatest Nightmare: Humiliation, lack of respect

Others Often Feel: Used

Problem Emotion: Anger

God is Gracious...so I don't have to prove myself (to my self...to others...to God). Jesus gave up his authority and power on the cross to secure our position in the Kingdom.

Key Takeaways From This Lesson

Action Steps

- ☐ If married, share the 4 Gs with your spouse and discuss these Four Eternal Truths. Watch this Module together.
- ☐ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you which of these four truths about God you are not believing *fully* right now in your life... and connected to which circumstance.
- ☐ How are these common idols showing up in your life today...?

CONTROL

APPROVAL

COMFORT

POWER

☐ Who will you teach The 4 Gs to right away? _____

☐ Print copies of the 4 Gs flyer below and post in places you will regularly see them.

The 4 Gs

Four Eternal Truths About God

God is Great...

So I don't have to be in control.

God is Glorious...

So I don't have to fear others.

God is Good...

So I don't have to look
elsewhere for my satisfaction.

God is Gracious...

So I don't have to prove myself.