

Why God Doesn't Just Do Stuff Himself, Sept. 25-28, 2025

LC DEEPER LEARNING DISCUSSION of Sunday truths: (sermon outline below for reference)

- ➔ Review Sunday, emphasizing **-God's design is partnership with people**
 1. God's creation: marriage, children, church family relationships
 2. Joseph's story – ALWAYS people, knowingly or unknowingly
 3. Herb and Jerri – experiencing God through sibling relationships and spiritual family relationshipsBIG REALITY: God does the arranging, but we are to partner
- ➔ Sin turned us Upside-Down so that our default is "Jesus and me" individualism
 - We read scripture through that lens
 - We try to solve problems through that lens
 - We try to discover God's will through that lens
 - etc, etc, etc...
- ➔ Living in Jesus' yoke to become more and more like Jesus requires living God's design of partnership with God TOGETHER – instead of independence, we live interdependence. Most instances of "you" is plural
 - to experience God's Scripture
 - to experience God's promises
 - to experience God's care, guidance, help, and strength
 - to experience Jesus' promised Abundant Life
 - to hear God's voice
 - etc, etc, etc

Teaching Team, share:

- 1 Go-to, life-impacting Bible verses – dig into them to investigate how God uses people to experience them
- 2 Times when you experienced God's promises/truth thru other people, ala the testimony from Jerri and me.

Everyone share:

Herb: some examples

1 Corinthians 10:12–14

Philippians 4:11–14

2 Corinthians 12:7–12

Jeremiah 29:11–13

Romans 8:26

Romans 14:1

Romans 15:1

1 Corinthians 2:3–5

Galatians 6:1–3

Takeaways:

Partnering with God TOGETHER

1. God's story: He works by partnering with people.

Genesis 2:18 (ESV) ¹⁸Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him."
Genesis 1:28 (ESV) ²⁸And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth."
Psalms 127:4-5 (ESV) ⁴Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one's youth. ⁵Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them! He shall not be put to shame when he speaks with his enemies in the gate.
Proverbs 18:24 (ESV) ²⁴A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

2. Joseph's story: people experienced God through people.

Genesis 45:4-5 (ESV) ⁴So Joseph said to his brothers, "Come near to me, please." And they came near. And he said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life.

3. Our story: we experience God and His work through people.

➔ God's design is family-like relationships, blood & spiritual

Galatians 6:2 (ESV) Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.
Hebrews 10:23-24 (ESV) ²³Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. ²⁴And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works,

➔ God's design is people as His hands

1 Timothy 5:1-2 (ESV) ¹Do not rebuke an older man but encourage him as you would a father, younger men as brothers, ²older women as mothers, younger women as sisters, in all purity.
Titus 2:3-4 (ESV) ³Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, ⁴and so train the young women to love their husbands and children,
Hebrews 3:12-14 (ESV) ¹²Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. ¹³But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. ¹⁴For we have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end.
Proverbs 15:22 (ESV) ²²Without counsel plans fail, but with many advisers they succeed.
Proverbs 27:17 (ESV) ¹⁷Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.

A Testimony: Pastor Herb and Jerri Jackson

(testimony is experiencing Scripture through others)

1. Growing up situation – dysfunction/ years between us
2. Young adults w/ kids – once in a while but not close
3. Ken Davis/ Colorado friends
4. 2012 – God had set up resources through me for her...
5. 2014 camp meeting – "how do I forgive?"
6. 2015 Mom and Ernie
7. 2017 Ernie's death – Mom's alz, Jerri caring for
8. 2020 Mom's deterioration/ week preparing house
9. 2022, Jan. God arr me to be in town with Mom during Jerri's retreat when George's wife Amy was dying in ICU
10. 2022 - Mom w/ us for Jerri's knee surgery/ "not for her, but for you..."
11. 2024 – Mom's memorial week/ sibling reconnection
12. 2024- present – now Jerri is alongside me, protective little sister

