

#### WHY DON'T I HAVE WHAT I WANT?

With Dr. Ricky Temple (Supplemental Notes)

### Part 5

Series Q/A Review – November 30, 2025

## Five Reasons We Struggle

- 1. My Thinking How do you think?
- 2. My Lifestyle How do you live?
- 3. My Culture How has your culture affected your future?
- 4. My Unwillingness to Face Issues
- 5. My Unanswered Questions

## Q/A Focus Statements at the beginning:

- The issues we avoid and why politics, financial pressure, lack of support, and fear of failure.
- We often hesitate to ask for help because it feels like admitting defeat.

#### PART 1 – THE WAY YOU THINK

1. Why do I keep settling in "Haran" moments of my life when I know God has called me further?

Genesis 11:31 (NIV)

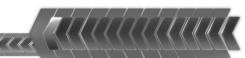
"Terah took his son Abram... and they set out for Canaan. But when they came to Harran, they settled there."

2. How can I tell when it's my thinking—not my circumstances—that's holding me back?

Proverbs 23:7a (NKJV)

"For as he thinks in his heart, so is he."

3. What practical steps help me renew my mind every day?





Romans 12:2 (NIV)

"Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind."

### 4. How do I stop inheriting the limits of my environment or family system

Ezekiel 18:20 (NIV)

"The one who sins is the one who will die. The child will not share the guilt of the parent..."

(You are not doomed to repeat what you inherited.)

## 5. What does it mean to believe beyond what I can see in real life situations?

2 Corinthians 5:7 (NIV)

"For we live by faith, not by sight."

### **PART 2 – THE WAY YOU LIVE**

## 6. Why does God care about lifestyle when He already knows my heart?

1 Samuel 16:7 (NIV)

"People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."

(But the heart always shows up in lifestyle.)

## 7. What habits show that my faith is real?

James 2:17 (NIV)

"Faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead."

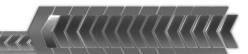
### 8. How can I avoid "Lot moments" — following what looks good but leads to trouble?

Genesis 13:10–11 (NIV)

"Lot looked around and saw that the whole plain of the Jordan... was well watered... So Lot chose for himself the whole plain..."

(Everything that looks good isn't God.)

# 9. Is it possible to live for God and still enjoy life in a normal way?





John 10:10 (NIV)

"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

### 10. How can I rebuild discipline when I've lost consistency in my walk?

1 Corinthians 9:27 (NIV)

"No, I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave..."

(Discipline is trained, not gifted.)

## **PART 3 – THE CULTURE YOU CREATE**

### 11. How do I know if my circle is helping me or harming me spiritually?

1 Corinthians 15:33 (NIV)

"Do not be misled: 'Bad company corrupts good character."

## 12. What kind of culture am I building at home, school, or work without realizing it?

Proverbs 14:1 (NIV)

"The wise woman builds her house, but with her own hands the foolish one tears hers down."

## 13. Why is group culture such a strong influence, even when I know better?

Proverbs 13:20 (NIV)

"Walk with the wise and become wise, for a companion of fools suffers harm."

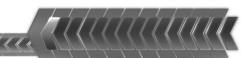
## 14. What does it mean to create a "faith culture" in my personal life?

Joshua 24:15 (NIV)

"But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

## 15. How do I deal with toxic environments that I can't fully leave yet?

John 17:15 (NIV)





"My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one."

### PART 4 – THE TRUTH YOU CAN'T FACE

## 16. Why does God ask us to face painful truths instead of just fixing the problem for us?

Psalm 51:6 (NIV)

"Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb; you taught me wisdom in that secret place."

(God grows you through truth, not escape.)

## 17. How do I know when I'm avoiding truth about myself?

Jeremiah 17:9 (NIV)

"The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?"

### 18. What happens if I keep ignoring something God keeps showing me?

Proverbs 29:1 (NIV)

"Whoever remains stiff-necked after many rebukes will suddenly be destroyed—without remedy."

## 19. How do I tell the difference between conviction and condemnation?

Romans 8:1 (NIV)

"Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."

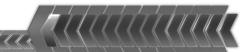
## 20. Why does obedience often feel harder than knowing the truth itself?

James 1:22 (NIV)

"Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says."

#### PART 5 – THE RESULTS YOU CAN CHANGE

## 21. If I'm a new creation, why do some of my old habits still show up?





Galatians 5:17 (NIV)

"For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit..."

# 22. How do I know when I'm truly "in Christ" and not just attending church?

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIV)

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come..."

## 23. Can I really change my results if my past still affects my opportunities?

Philippians 3:13–14 (NIV)

"Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on..."

### 24. What if I don't feel new?

Romans 12:2 (NIV)

"Be transformed by the renewing of your mind."

(Transformation happens before you feel it.)

## 25. How do I handle friends or environments that pull me back into "the old"?

Psalm 1:1 (NIV)

"Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked..."

