Level Up

February 2, 2025 **Pastor John Jose**



I. REVIEW

CHRISTIAN CENTER

The past messages, *Unexpected* and *Overflow*, have been powerful. Last week, Pastor Brian emphasized the importance of changing your perspective—seeing things from God's point of view

- Understanding **perspective** is about aligning with God's vision
- Pastor Brian's illustration of repentance and the masterpiece object lesson brought this to life
- The source of life
- Everything in our faith journey begins with Jesus' simple yet profound call: "Follow Me."

II. SHOWING UP SHOULD LEAD TO GROWING UP

We need **revelation**, not just information

- Revelation is an uncovering, a bringing to light of truth that was previously hidden or obscure
- Hebrews 1:1 reminds us that God has made Himself known in various ways and at different times
- The Scriptures are not just a record of information; they **are** revelation
- True spiritual growth happens when we position ourselves to receive God's perspective (absolute truth) and allow the Holy Spirit to make it alive in us

III. FOLLOWING CHRIST REQUIRES COMMITMENT

True discipleship—leveling up—requires backing up our faith with action

- Jesus' **Lordship** is at the center of real growth
- Saying, "I'm going to give it a try" often means there's no revelation yet
- John 8:31-32 (ERV): "If you continue to accept and obey my teaching, you are really my followers. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."
- Luke 6:46-49 (NLT): Jesus warns that calling Him 'Lord' without obedience is like building on sand true disciples build their foundation on solid rock

IV. KEY AREAS OF LORDSHIP

Jesus' commands were **not suggestions**. Here are essential areas He was clear about:

- Put God First
- Love Your Neighbor
- Forgive
- Serve
- Stay Humble
- Be Generous
- Pray Continuously

The George Washington Carver Example:

Carver sought God's wisdom and received life-changing ideas that impacted agriculture and race relations

- He believed God provided everyone with world-changing ideas—it's up to us to seek and uncover
- Job 12:7-8: "Ask the animals, and they will teach you; the birds of the sky, and they will tell you. Speak to the earth, and it will teach you."
- Carver's discoveries about the peanut came from seeking God early in the morning—his time of revelation.



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V. LIVING THE ABUNDANT LIFE

God only wants the very best for us

He has freed me from the curse of the law of sin and death and now is trying to show me how to LIVE a life above the world's way and truly be FREE (Galatians 3:13)

Life in Christ isn't about a checklist—it's about relationship

- Galatians 2:20 (NHEB): "I have been crucified with Christ, and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."
- When you stumble, go back to the Source
- **John 6:66-68 (ERV):** When others left Jesus, Peter declared, "Lord, where would we go? You have the words that give eternal life."