

## Reactions

You can tell a lot about someone by how they react to challenges

Our reactions tell people what we:

- Value
- Believe

Our reactions to challenges have a ripple effect

Landmines have the power to hijack our faith

Goal of series: become more **alert** to the landmines we face.

Why can these moments be so challenging for us?

Romans 1:18-23

"For God's wrath is revealed from heaven against all godlessness and unrighteousness of people who by their unrighteousness **suppress** the truth, since what can be known about God is evident among them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, that is, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen since the creation of the world, being understood through what he has made. As a result, people are without excuse. For though they knew God, they did not glorify him as God or show gratitude. Instead, their thinking became worthless, and their senseless hearts were darkened. Claiming to be wise, they became fools and **exchanged** the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man, birds, four-footed animals, and reptiles."

Landmines are dangerous because they can tempt us to **suppress** God's truth and **exchange** His ways for our own ways

We all have a sin issue, and because of that issue, we are vulnerable

How do we respond to these moments in a way where our faith isn't hijacked?

Romans 12:1-2

*"Therefore, brothers and sisters, in view of the **mercies of God**, I urge you to present your bodies as a **living sacrifice**, holy and pleasing to God; this is your **true worship**.*

"mercies of God" = the Gospel about Jesus

The Christ follower's **purpose**: express faith in Jesus by offering your life as a **sacrifice** for His Kingdom purposes

Romans 12:1-2

*"Therefore, brothers and sisters, in view of the mercies of God, I urge you to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God; this is your true worship. Do not be **conformed** to this age, but be **transformed** by the **renewing** of your mind, so that you may discern what is the good, pleasing, and perfect **will of God**."*

God's will for your life is transformation!

The gospel produces **sacrificial** living by first transforming how we **think**

Our **reward** for transforming the way we think is Jesus showing us more of **His will** in our lives

Landmines are **opportunities**, not obstacles

What do you need to sacrifice right now in this current situation?

- Control
- Unforgiveness
- Bitterness
- Anger
- Shame

Romans 5:6-8

"For while we were still **helpless**, at the right time, Christ died for the **ungodly**. For rarely will someone die for a just person—though for a good person perhaps someone might even dare to die. But God proves his own love for us in that **while we were still sinners**, Christ died for us.

When we are ready to give up **self**, God will be ready to show us more of **Himself**

Luke 9:23-25

*"Then he said to them all, "If anyone wants to **follow** after me, let him **deny himself, take up his cross daily, and follow me**. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever **loses** his life because of me will **save it**."*

Your habits are either making you more **alert** of landmines or are **blinding** you to the reality of landmines in your life

God's Word

Prayer

Fasting

Sabbath

Hebrews 4:12

"For the word of God is **living** and **effective** and **sharper** than any double-edged **sword, penetrating** as far as the **separation** of soul and spirit, joints and marrow. It is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart."

Galatians 2:20

"I have been **crucified** with Christ, and I no longer live, but **Christ lives in me**. The life I now live in the body, I live by **faith** in the Son of God, who loved me and **gave himself for me**."

The process of God's transforming work in us involves God revealing things to us