

Life Church Sermon, Jan 18, 2026 By MD ^2



Pray for your Haters, Love them.

Proverbs 9:8 Do not rebuke mockers or they will hate you; rebuke the wise and they will love you.

**So make sure to hear and appreciate good advice from Haters!
But Trust God for your Value!**

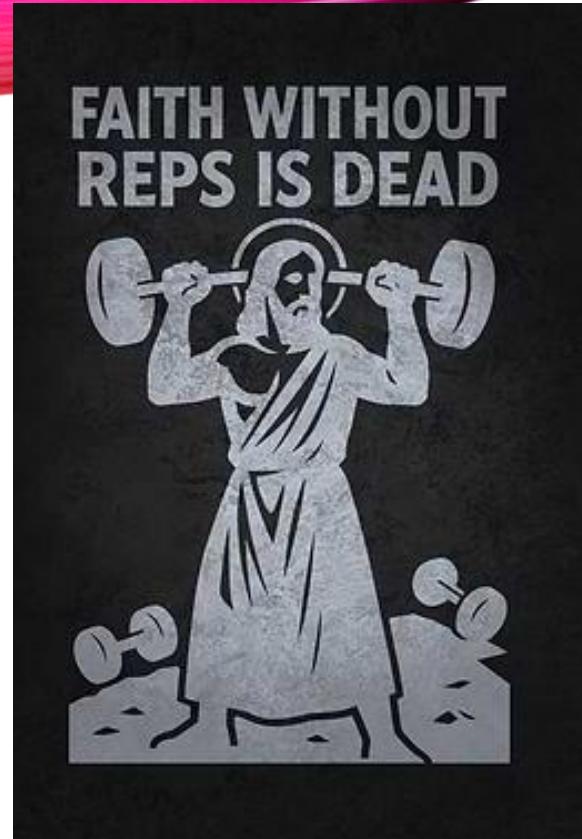
RT 3- CREATE, AND KNOW SOME WILL HATE! BUT HUSTLE & CREATE IN LOVE AND FOR GOD'S KINGDOM

Week 3:

Luke 22 Going from external Consumers to Team Creators!

Being a Creator means you will have haters! And Deniers who may come back.

HOW WE DO WHAT WE DO IS AS IMPORTANT AS WHAT WE DO.



- Jesus did Extra Ordinary things with ordinary people...
- Haters are like competition that sharpen you. Why Judas? Why Satan... God saw him coming, Why let him come? Satan is the ultimate Hater, and sharpener of God's People. He literally is called the Adversary!
- God is calling us to Hustle (not the world's money based hustle, but to work hard for His kingdom. Faith without Works (Hustle) is Dead,
- To Hustle is put boundaries on what You CAN'T Do. Jesus had boundaries! One was to always put God First, to Pray first, etc. He had to say no to people when needed, We do ourselves, including saying no to ourselves... Boundaries make some upset. Judas was one..
- You know someone's heart by how they treat the lowly, and how they respond to when someone says no to them.

- Peter was a hot Head, and easily influenced at times, but had a good heart and loved God! He needed Correction. You can imagine what the other disciples thought of him when Jesus Restored him! He was the Captain of the Disciples... The other disciples and Jesus had things to say.
- Peter's Doctrinal mistake is detailed in Galatians 2, where he made a hypocritical withdrawal from eating with Gentile believers in Antioch out of fear of Jewish Christians from Jerusalem ("the circumcision group"), which implied that salvation required following Jewish laws like circumcision, contradicting the gospel of faith in Christ. This action, driven by social pressure, caused other Jewish believers, including Barnabas, to follow his hypocrisy, creating confusion and undermining the unity of the Church, leading Paul the Apostle to publicly confront him for not living in line with the truth of the gospel. (Gemini).
- Don't Forget Paul had Plenty of Haters too... He was a Pharisee, A double agent, Too soft spoken, (He literally put someone to death with his preaching), He did not have enough authority...

THE LIFE OF A CONSUMER/CREATOR IS DEALING WITH HATERS AND SOMETIMES BEING ONE WHEN NEEDED!

9 TIPS FOR DEALING WITH HATERS

1. Understand That You Are Doing Things Right
2. Use Detractors' Criticisms To Evaluate Yourself
3. Try To Act With Tolerance
4. Use Haters To Learn How To Deal With Conflict
5. Act With Humility
6. Use Haters To Learn To Disregard Negative Influences
7. Learn How To Manage Anger
8. Let The Haters Motivate You
9. Use Your Haters To Think Independently

BONUS: Learn To Appreciate Your Victories

**Remember let others lift you up... BE HUMBLE, Don't ask who is the greatest?
Humbly serve and God will lift you up...**

Referees are the single most hated people in sports. No matter what they do, no one is happy with their performance, and the best thing anyone can say is that they helped their team win. But why such hatred for the men and women who are just trying to keep our beloved sports fair and safe? Referees are incredibly important to sports, especially at the collegiate and professional levels. Without them, rules would be broken, and games would be horrible to watch. Without referees, fights and arguments would happen constantly. They are single-handedly the reason for sportsmanship. When it comes down to winning and losing, athletes would do anything if it weren't for referees. Referees also do their thankless job for almost no monetary gain (except for at the highest level).

Source: <https://mastmedia.plu.edu/2016/stephanies-stance-why-do-we-hate-refs/>

Week #3 Review what it means to be a Zebra... A Ref... TO allow the game to go on!!!!

In this context Haters help us grow and do extraordinary things. There is no Greatness in Daniel without his Haters, Moses- Pharoah... the Pharisees Wrote Jesus' sermons for him! Don't be like them!



Week 3:
LUKE 22
PRACTICAL ASPECTS OF
DISCIPLESHIP?

THE LIFE OF A CONSUMER LEADS US TO BLEND IN, VERSUS COURAGEOUSLY STANDING WITH CHRIST.

Peter's Denial:

- **Fear of Identification and losing Jesus**: Peter was fearful of ridicule and being identified with Christ at that time. To be identified with Christ would have limited him following to see how Jesus was doing. Peter proved his courage a few times... He just attacked a man for Jesus being outnumbered... but people could laugh at him because his master was taken... If he was God how could he be taken?
- **Human Weakness**: Peter, like other disciples, failed to stay awake and pray as Jesus asked, showing his own spiritual frailty in a moment of crisis
- **Overconfidence**: Peter had previously declared he would never deny Jesus, but his actions proved his self-assurance was misplaced, highlighting his pride and lack of true courage under pressure.
- Peter thought he could blend in with the same guards who had just arrested Jesus and the crowd cheering his arrest. How many times have we thought the same thing? I want to fit into a group who might not be receptive to Christianity so I won't talk about my faith and they'll probably never know. Maybe I'll even laugh at their off-color jokes or join in on gossip and slander, or at least not object.

Luke 22 Going from Consumer to Creators...

Week 1 Becoming a Creator requires prep and consuming the right things

1. Preparing the Passover- The Jewish Routine of deliverance- Points to Jesus.
2. The Lord's Supper- Consuming his flesh!

Week 2 Being a successful Creator is not tooting your own horn

3. Who Is Greatest- Wrong Question to Ask...
4. The Garden of Gethsemane- John's Version... Puts it into perspective... I pray for those who will believe because of them!

Week 3 Being a Creator means you will have haters! And Deniers who may come back.

5. Jesus Betrayed by Judas- Not like Peter... WHY!!!!
6. Jesus' Arrest- Peter's Denial... and tears...

Week 4

7. Jesus before the Sanhedrin... Selfies with the Enemies...

Luke 22 Going from Consumer to Creators...

Week 1 Becoming a Creator requires prep and consuming the right things

1. Prepare the Message/Sacrifice. Know the Gospel for yourself...Jesus is our Passover.
2. Know/Call your team & Teach them. Eat the word, take it in...

Week 2 Being a successful Creator is not tooting your own horn

3. Spend time with them doing extraordinary Who is the Greatest...God is!
4. Let others Confirm your gifts and identity. Authority has been given to us... no need to confirm it yourself.. Let your works do that... The poor have the gospel preached to them..

Week 3 Being a Creator means you will have haters! And Deniers who may come back.

5. Know your limits. Jesus had to let Judas go...
6. Stay on Message. Peter didn't

Week 4

7. Send forth with the message. It will be hard... They

LUKE 22: 24-38

JESUS' HATERS

Jesus Arrested

47 While he was still speaking a crowd came up, and the man who was called Judas, one of the Twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him, **48** but Jesus asked him, “Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?”

49 When Jesus' followers saw what was going to happen, they said, “Lord, should we strike with our swords?” **50** And one of them struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his right ear.

51 But Jesus answered, “No more of this!” And he touched the man's ear and healed him.

52 Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple guard, and the elders, who had come for him, “Am I leading a rebellion, that you have come with swords and clubs? **53** Every day I was with you in the temple courts, and you did not lay a hand on me. But this is your hour—when darkness reigns.”

THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE

39 And He came out and went, as was His habit, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples also followed Him. **40** Now when He arrived at the place, He said to them, “Pray that you do not come into temptation.” **41** And He withdrew from them about a stone’s throw, and He knelt down and began to pray, **42** saying, “Father, if You are willing, remove this cup from Me; yet not My will, but Yours be done.” **43** [Now an angel from heaven appeared to Him, strengthening Him. **44** And being in agony, He was praying very fervently; and His sweat became like drops of blood, falling down upon the ground]. **45** When He rose from prayer, He came to the disciples and found them sleeping from sorrow, **46** and He said to them, “Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you do not come into temptation.”

LUKE 22: 54-60

HOW DO WE OVERCOME OUR HATE?

Peter Disowns Jesus

54 Then seizing him, they led him away and took him into the house of the high priest. Peter followed at a distance. **55** And when some there had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and had sat down together, Peter sat down with them. **56** A servant girl saw him seated there in the firelight. She looked closely at him and said, "This man was with him."

57 But he denied it. "Woman, I don't know him," he said.

58 A little later someone else saw him and said, "You also are one of them."
"Man, I am not!" Peter replied.

59 About an hour later another asserted, "Certainly this fellow was with him, for he is a Galilean."

60 Peter replied, "Man, I don't know what you're talking about!" Just as he was speaking, the rooster crowed. **61** The Lord turned and looked straight at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word the Lord had spoken to him: "Before the rooster crows today, you will disown me three times." **62** And he went outside and wept bitterly.

WE HAVE BEEN CRUCIFIED WITH CHRIST AND SHARE IN THE HUSTLE OF FAITH... WORKS THAT COME AS A RESULT OF FAITH

- **Paul Opposes Cephas**

- 11 When Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. 12 For before certain men came from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles. But when they arrived, he began to draw back and separate himself from the Gentiles because he was afraid of those who belonged to the circumcision group. 13 The other Jews joined him in his hypocrisy, so that by their hypocrisy even Barnabas was led astray.
- 14 When I saw that they were not acting in line with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas in front of them all, "You are a Jew, yet you live like a Gentile and not like a Jew. How is it, then, that you force Gentiles to follow Jewish customs?"
- 15 "We who are Jews by birth and not sinful Gentiles 16 know that a person is not justified by the works of the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law, because by the works of the law no one will be justified.
- 17 "But if, in seeking to be justified in Christ, we Jews find ourselves also among the sinners, doesn't that mean that Christ promotes sin? Absolutely not! 18 If I rebuild what I destroyed, then I really would be a lawbreaker.
- 19 "For through the law I died to the law so that I might live for God. 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. 21 I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!" [a]

WHAT IS THE MISSION... THE WHAT, AND THE HUSTLE... THE MINDSET GOD WANTS FOR US?

- To Build his kingdom... I have seen a lot of Doom and Gloom about the American Economy recently.... What if God was to tell you the economy was going to collapse Next month, how would you operate? How would you Hustle to be in a good Position? The Process is not that hard actually- Get out of Debt, Save automatically, Invest in things that will last (with diversification- Maybe in things that are not the world's currency- the dollar), Use Tax advantaged methods like 401k's Roth IRA's, etc. Find jobs that are Recession Proof, Live below your means if possible, But Get going!!!
- If you knew the date... They you would act differently.. God will not tell us the date of Jesus' return, because the How he wants us to live is to Hustle for him everyday, as if he was coming back today!
- How do we get that On fire mindset? Love as if there is no tomorrow!

DEALING WITH YOUR HATERS

- **God's Missions are not just for others...**
The Missions are for us as well. Our mission is the Game God has given us... and the Process and the Journey make us stronger and build our Faith.
- **Satan is our strongest hater, but with our flesh, our Pride, the World we have Haters on every side, and even on the inside...** So Humility, Prayer, Routines of excellence are key....
- You know a tree by its fruit. What things are you doing regularly that show You are a disciple of Christ?
- What are our Issues God needs to work on with us? Do they disqualify us from Service? Sometimes...Peter is an example of this... but restoration and working on things is part of our walk.



APPLYING WHAT WE KNOW:

Questions Designed to help us to NOT STAND STILL, but to MOVE where God is calling us. To use the preparation he has already given us:

Week 3: Luke 22: 47- 60 Dealing with 2 types of hater: Judas, and Peter... The Arrest of Jesus, and denial of Peter...

- Unpacking our Inner Hater... What are some things we have to be careful about because they make us haters of People?
- What are some Good aspects of Hating that gives us courage to correct others in Love as Paul did for Peter?
- Our Mission... What can give us a sense of Urgency to push us forward?
- How can the Church Help with that motivation? Following up on how we can be the REF- and Scoreboard... for ACCOUNTABILITY to help you with this? How can the Church Keep you accountable and help you stay motivated, encouraged and MOVING FORWARD????!!!!