

ON THE OTHER SIDE

INTRODUCTION

"Wherever you go, there you are." We bring our internal struggles, fears, and ideals with us wherever we go. We may have great intentions, but they aren't enough to get us where we want to go if we don't deal with the underlying parts of our character. Our character must be aligned with our direction if we want to get to the other side of our intentions, hopes, dreams as it relates to our relationships, career, finances, faith, etc. The first step of alignment is taking stock of where you are right now.

PART 2

VIDEO NOTES

To get where we want to go, we have to know who and where we are right now. Oftentimes, we get frustrated when we see poor outcomes when it comes to our dreams, hopes, relationships, jobs, and finances. What we don't want to admit is that we are the common denominator in all these situations. It's often our blind spots that contribute to the obstacles we have a hard time overcoming. These blind spots are often parts of our character that need refining. Andy Stanley defines character as "the will to do what is right, as defined by God, regardless of personal cost." When we change our character, we will change our direction.

Knowing what we need to change is half the battle! The other half involves rejecting passivity, having difficult conversations, getting out our secrets, facing our fears of what might disrupt our lives, and asking for help. One of the most powerful ways we can get a glimpse into our character is asking someone we love and trust, "What's it like on the other side of me?"

When we get these answers, it's up to us to take them to God and ask for His help, knowing He will meet us, guide us, and shape us to be who He calls us to be. We are never alone in the journey of improving our character.

Change your **character** and you will change your **direction**.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. Think about Jeremy's camping story. Have you ever had an experience where you brought yourself (your frustrations, stress, etc.) with you and it ended up badly?
2. It's not your weaknesses that will get you, but your blind spots. What does that mean to you and your life? Have you ever discovered a blind spot before?
3. Solomon says: *"There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end, it leads to death."* Have you ever convinced yourself of something that seemed right, but hurt you in the long run? Why do you think we have a tendency to do that?
4. What does "character" mean to you? Is there someone (a mentor, pastor, leader, etc.) that you aspire to emulate in terms of their character? What do you admire about their character?
5. Is there an aspect of your character that is currently keeping you away from the direction you want to go? What is it and have you done anything about it? Why or why not?
6. Who can you ask, "What's it like to be on the other side of me?" and will you do it?
7. God loves us and delights in the fact that we want to get closer to Him and improve our character. How can you invite God into the process of improving your character and becoming the "new" that Christ made you to be?

THIS WEEK

Take a leap of faith and ask someone what it's like on the other side of you. Then, take that information to God and see how He might help you address those places of your character so that your direction and intention are aligned.

"Whoever does these things
will **never** be **shaken**."
Psalm 15:2-5