

# How I Learn Best

The greatest lessons I learn about the gospel are found in relationship with other people. Not just believers but in every relationship. The lepers, the Pharisees, the prostitutes, the wasted and the weary– they're all right here today.

I learn best about the gospel when I am under oppression, when I realize my own failures and when I am angry enough to turn over a few tables... as well as when I am so grateful that I feel rocks will join me in praise.

I learn best about the gospel when I identify with the despair and the joy and the anger and the celebration of everything this life entails. And when I join Christ in the mission, despite all the spiritual darkness in this country of glitz and grit.

I rarely ever learn when I get my way.

I learn best when my back is against the wall.

I learn best when I pray and only silence replies.

I learn best when answers are elusive.

I learn best about the gospel when I see the broken as well as the proud and I realize that I am both.

Jesus becomes my tour guide and I am amazed by the places He takes me... Sometimes He takes me- kicking and screaming into the darkness of the world and the darkness in my own heart. I riffle through the ashes and rust for the smallest wisp of glory.

I learn best about the gospel when I am wrapped up in the story and I choose the right role.

Truth be told, I am a wreck when life is predictable and safe.