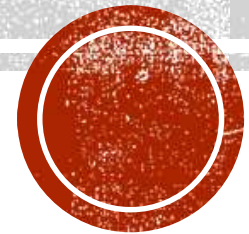


SIDEXSIDE

People in Need of Change **Helping**



People in Need of Change

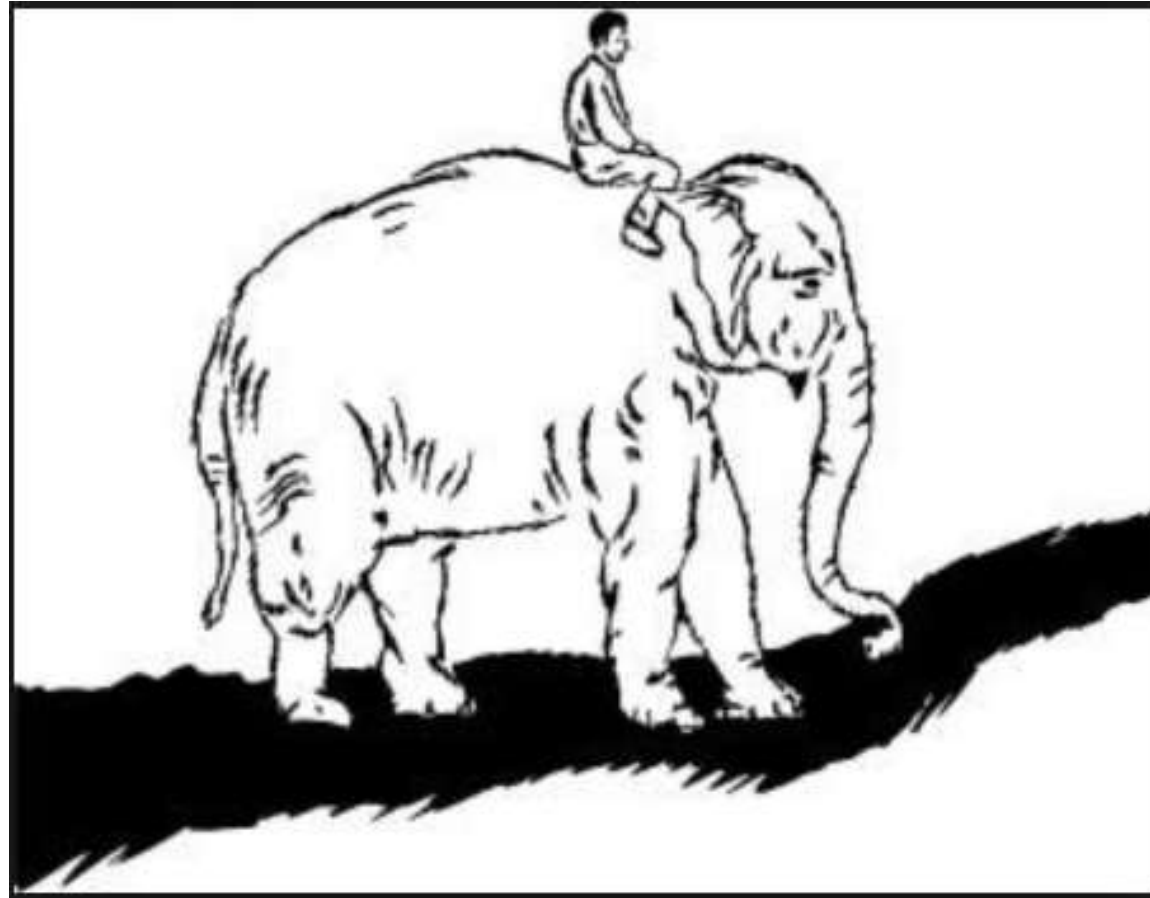
WHY TEACH ON 'ALONGSIDING'?

- We have an overwhelming desire to help those we love
- Sin and its effects are often not straightforward
- Discipleship happens in relationships
- The temptation to let “professionals” do all the gritty ministry
- The gap between theology and wise application



WHY DO PEOPLE DO WHAT THEY DO?

- **The Elephant, The Rider and the Path—*A Model***



THE ELEPHANT

- The Heart: Desires and Emotions
 - Desire: A state of mind seeking satisfaction
 - Emotions/Feelings
- Powerful—even overwhelming
- Prov. 4:23; Lk. 6:45; Jas. 1:14; 4:1; Gal. 5:16-17; Prov. 15:13, 18; 2 Tim. 3:6
- Tripp's Principle of Inescapable Influence: What I desire and long for most will have a significant and inescapable influence on my behavior



THE RIDER

- **Reasons and Beliefs**
 - Our intellect and cognitive faculties discern truth and help us understand our environment/situation/world and how to best navigate it.
- **Close connection with desires and emotions**
- **Prov. 1:1-7; 2 Cor 10:5-6; Ps. 42:5; Phil. 1:9-10; Rom. 12:2**



THE PATH

- **Environment/Situation**
 - External: The World
 - Internal: The Body
- **Both play influential roles in shaping behavior, beliefs and emotions.**
- **Prov. 13:20; 1 Cor. 15:33; Ps. 56:1-8; Job 2:7**



IN SUMMARY . . .

- *As human beings in a fallen world, we do what we do because of the complex relationship between the elephant, the rider and the path, as the elephant exercises the most powerful influence.*
- Explaining behavior is more nuanced than many Christians have been led to think.
 - This model, like many others, is helpful, but is neither perfect nor exhaustive.

