

Life's Healing Choices: 5 of 8
"The Transformation Choice"
Cornerstone Church of Poway
Pastor Ed Turley
November 13, 2022

Transformation Choice: I voluntarily submit to every change God wants to make in my life, and humbly ask Him to remove my character defects.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled."
Matthew 5:6 (NIV)

Transformation is not passive; but active.

If We Want Transformation, We Must Deliberately:

1. Work On Changing One Defect At A Time

"Dear friends, you always followed my instructions when I was with you. And now that I am away, it is even more important. **Work hard** to show the **results** of your salvation, **obeying God** with deep reverence and fear. For **God is working in you**, giving you the **desire** and the **power** to do what pleases Him.

Philippians 2:12-13 (NLT2)

Do everything **without complaining** and arguing, so that no one can criticize you. **Live clean**, innocent lives as children of God, shining like bright lights in a world full of crooked and perverse people. **Hold firmly to the word of life**; then, on the day of Christ's return, I will be proud that I did not run the race in vain and that my work was not useless." **Philippians 2:14-16 (NLT2)**

"**Love** does no wrong to others, so love fulfills the requirements of God's law. This is all the more urgent, for you know how late it is; **time is running out**. Wake up, for our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. The night is almost gone; the day of salvation will soon be here. So **remove** your dark deeds like dirty clothes, and **put on** the shining armor of right living. Because we belong to the day, we must **live decent lives** for all to see. Don't participate in the darkness of wild parties and drunkenness, or in sexual promiscuity and immoral living, or in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, **clothe yourself** with the **presence** of the Lord Jesus Christ. And don't let yourself think about ways to indulge your evil desires."
Romans 13:10-14 (NLT2)

Notes: _____

2. Connect With People Who Can Help, Not Hinder You

“Do not be **misled**: ‘Bad company corrupts good character.’”

1 Corinthians 15:33 (NIV)

“If the Lord Jesus is willing, I hope to send **Timothy** to you soon for a visit. Then he can **cheer me up** by telling me how you are getting along. I have no one else like Timothy, who **genuinely cares** about your welfare.”

Philippians 2:19-20 (NLT2)

Notes: _____

3. Focus On Progress, Not Perfection

“And I am certain that God, who **began** the good work within you, will **continue** His work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.”

Philippians 1:6 (NLT)

“No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I **focus** on this one thing: **Forgetting the past** and **looking forward** to what lies ahead, I **press on** to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us.” **Philippians 3:13-14 (NLT)**

Notes: _____

- Am I being deliberately active in my transformation?

My next right step, I will:

- Journal where God is leading me to grow
- Accept responsibility for my faults
- Accept God’s forgiveness and forgive myself
- Follow Jesus in Believer’s Baptism November 20th

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[This is only a guide – select the points you want to discuss]

Open in Prayer.

Icebreaker: What is your favorite creature? Why?

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If We Want Transformation, We Must Deliberately:

1. Work On Changing One Defect At A Time

Read Philippians 2:12-13

How has God been changing your life?

What area is He encouraging you to grow in?

In what areas have you seen His desire and power?

Read Philippians 2:14-16

How firmly is your grasp of God's Word?

How can you be a light for the Lord?

Read Romans 13:10-14

How can you be more loving this week?

How would you describe your spiritual alertness? Needs Coffee? Wide awake?

How does the analogy of removing dirty clothing help you understand how to live?

How will clothing yourself with the presence of Jesus help you this week?

2. Connect With People Who Can Help, Not Hinder You

Read 1 Corinthians 15:33

How has the influence of others affected your walk negatively? Positively?

Do you think it is true that more people fall away from bad friends than bad theology? Why or why not? What has been your experience?

Where do you seek advice?

Read Philippians 2:19-20

Who do you have that genuinely cares about your faith and wellbeing?

3. Focus On Progress, Not Perfection

Read Philippians 1:6

Who began the good work of salvation in you?

Who will help you to continue?

Read Philippians 3:12-14

What is the key in moving forward in your faith?

What do you need to forget?

Are you being deliberately active in your transformation?

What is your next right step?

Close in prayer.