

WHY

we do what we do

Life change is a natural and necessary process for every Christ follower.



Transformation defined: Metamorphosis; When one thing becomes another thing.

2 Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect. Romans 12:2 (NLT)

A slogan at the Quest: "Come as you are but don't stay that way."

We don't excuse our sin, we allow God to change it.

Life change is not:

- A better version of me.

17 ...anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! 2 Corinthians 5:17 (NLT)

- More religion in me.

Don't confuse the issues:

- Life change is not about earning God's approval or forgiveness.

When we choose to follow Jesus:

- We accept Jesus' death as payment for our sin.

Colossians 1:21-22 (NLT); 1 Peter 2:24 (GWT)

The reason this is important is:

We can't earn God's forgiveness, we can only accept it.

- It calls us to repent of our sin.

Acts 3:19 (NLT)

The reason this is important is:

We can't follow Jesus and continue to do what we've always done.

- It calls us to confess our sin.

1 John 1:9 (GWT)

The reason this is important is:

Relationship requires transparency.

- We do nothing to earn new life.

Ephesians 2:8-9 (NLT)

- We partner with God for a changed life.

6 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)

God is changing you until Jesus comes back for you.

- Life change is a process, not perfection.

- Life Change is a process of becoming.

Romans 8:29 (TLB)

The process of life change:

- Change begins when we chose to identify with Jesus.

17 When someone becomes a Christian, he becomes a brand new person inside. He is not the same anymore.

A new life has begun! 2 Corinthians 5:17 (TLB)

- Change happens as we surrender to God.

2 Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think... Romans 12:2 (NLT)

22 Since, then, we do not have the excuse of ignorance, everything—and I do mean everything—connected with that old way of life has to go. It's rotten through and through. Get rid of it! And then take on an entirely new way of life—a God-fashioned life, 23 a life renewed from the inside. 24 and working itself into your conduct as God accurately reproduces his character in you. Ephesians 4:22-24 (MSG)

11 After all, God's saving kindness has appeared for the benefit of all people.

12 It trains us to avoid ungodly lives filled with worldly desires so that we can live self-controlled, moral, and godly lives in this present world. Titus 2:11-12 (GWT)

- Change happens as we learn obedience.

6 And this is love: that we walk in obedience to his commands. As you have heard from the beginning, his command is that you walk in love. 2 John 1:6 (NIV)

8 Even though Jesus was God's Son, he learned obedience from the things he suffered. Hebrews 5:8 (NLT)

If we're not allowing God to change us:

- We become rebellious

4 They will betray their friends, be reckless, be puffed up with pride, and love pleasure rather than God. 5 They will act religious, but they will reject the power that could make them godly. Stay away from people like that! 2 Timothy 3:4-5 (NLT)

- We become religious.

16 They say they know God, but their actions show they do not accept him. They are hateful people, they refuse to obey, and they are useless for doing anything good. Titus 1:16 (NCV)



TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

Questions for Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain why?
- As Christ followers, why should we value life change?
- What does Transformation look like in us?
- How do you balance the desire for life change and not expect to be perfect?
- Talk about the difference between Salvation and Transformation. We play no part in salvation, but what part do we play transformation?
- Talk about the points under the sub-heading: "The process of Life change". How does choosing our identity with Jesus bring change? How does the process of surrendering to God bring change? What does it look like to learn obedience? When you read the Bible, do you read it for information or transformation? What is the difference?
- If we are not experiencing Life Change, why does rebellion and religion set in?

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