

I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don't be troubled or afraid. John 14:27 (NLT)

- Destructive emotions cause our feelings to be greater than our **healing**.

I don't understand myself at all, for I really want to do what is right, but I don't do it. Instead, I do the very thing I hate. Romans 7:15 (NLT)

How change gets started:

- There comes a point when we get **tired** of our current **condition**.
- We take **responsibility** for our **part** in the problem.
- Our **desire** to change has to be greater than our **excuse** to stay as we are.
- There has to be a **plan** that supports the change.

God saved you through faith as an act of kindness. You had nothing to do with it. Being saved is a gift from God. It's not the result of anything you've done, so no one can brag about it. Ephesians 2:8-9 (GWT)
Put me on trial, LORD, and cross-examine me. Test my motives and my heart. Psalm 26:2 (NLT)

Important issues concerning change:

- Change within us begins with **surrender** from us.
If you grasp and cling to life on your terms, you'll lose it, but if you let that life go, you'll get life on God's terms. Luke 17:33 (NLT)

- Change is a **process**.
18 All of us! Nothing between us and God, our faces shining with the brightness of his face. And so we are transfigured much like the Messiah, our lives gradually becoming brighter and more beautiful as God enters our lives and we become like him. 2 Corinthians 3:18 (MSG)

- Change happens when we **partner with** God.
God who began the good work within you will keep right on helping you grow in His grace until His task within you is finally finished. Philippians 1:6 (NLT)

Incorporating "Stops" and "Starts":

- We stop grasping for what **we want** in life and start embracing what **God wants**.
33 If you grasp and cling to life on your terms, you'll lose it, but if you let that life go, you'll get life on God's terms. Luke 17:33 (NLT)
- We stop trying to **fit in** to this culture and start thinking about how we can **stand out** for 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. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect. Romans 12:2 (NLT)
- We stop **fighting** God and start allowing Him to **lead** us.

4 ...God is kind, but he's not soft. In kindness he takes us firmly by the hand and leads us into a radical life-change. Romans 2:4 (MSG)

Partnering with God to experience change.

- Give your **life** to Jesus.

- **Ask God** to change you.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Psalm 51:10

- Surround yourself with **godly friends**.

Iron is made sharp with iron, and one man is made sharp by a friend. Proverbs 27:17

Additional Notes:



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

Questions that can be used in Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for personal time with God.

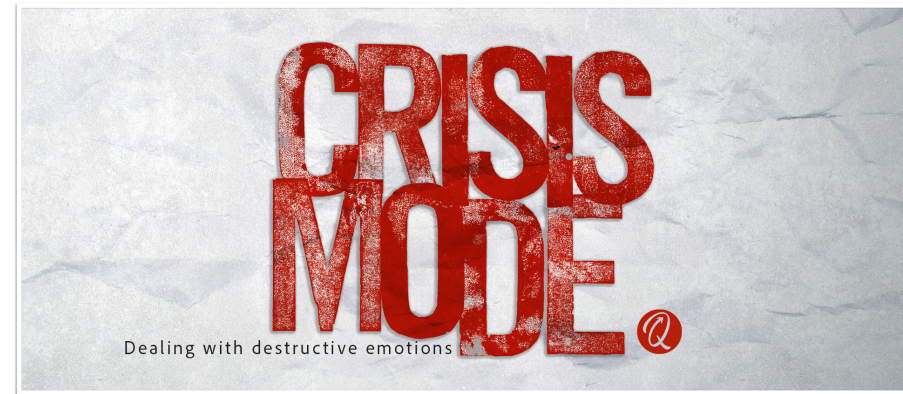
- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain.
- Do you believe that God wants to continually change us? Why do you believe that people don't really want to be changed?
- Why does change within us begin with surrender from us?
- Why is it important to know that change is a process? Are you experiencing that process in your life?
- Discuss the points under the sub-heading - "Incorporating 'Stops' and 'Starts'". Which of these can be a challenge to you? Explain.
- What does it mean to partner with God for change?
- Why is giving our life to Jesus necessary in experiencing change?
- Why are godly friends important if we're going to experience change?

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Today's Talk..



Dealing with feeling that
I Can't Change

Sunday, May 18th, 2025

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