

TRANSFORMED



HOW DOES THE GOSPEL BRING TRANSFORMATION?

When you hear “Gospel transformation”, what comes to mind? Why do we need to be transformed?

What does change look like in the Bible?

- _____ : Greek meaning _____, turning from sin, turning to God, in such a way not that you are adding a new thought to your collection of thoughts, but rather replacing one for another in an irreversible way.
- _____ : Romans 12:2 Greek *metamorphoo* to change into another _____

Jesus called people to repentance → “you have heard it said...but I say to you...”

- What is Jesus asking them to change?

Who are some people who were changed through encountering Jesus?

MARY MAGDALENE (Luke 8:1-3, John 20:1-18)

PAUL (Acts 8:1-3, Acts 9:1-19)

PETER (Luke 5:1-11, Matthew 16:13-23)

ZACCHAEUS (Luke 19:1-10)

What does transformation look like for us?

EPHESIANS 2:1-10

COLOSSIANS 3:1-17

God continues to transform us through the Spirit

JOHN 14:26 The continual teaching of the Spirit

EZEKIEL 36:26

1 CORINTHIANS 2:11-16

How have you changed through encountering Jesus?

How do you want to change? What is your first step toward that?

TRANSFORMED BY SCRIPTURE

DISCUSS

Lots of people talk about the concept of a *daily quiet time*, or suggest that there should be time every day when you read the Word and connect with God. Have you ever done this? Why do you think people suggest this?

"I shouldn't try to read the Bible every day if my heart's not really in it." Do you agree or disagree? Why?

READ

MATTHEW 4:1-11

- How did Jesus apply Scripture to his life?

JOSHUA 1:8

- What does it mean to *meditate* as this verse says?

- What is the result of meditating on Scripture?

- Have you ever seen this result in your life?

EPHESIANS 6:11, 17 and HEBREWS 4:12

- In these verses, the Word is described as *powerful, active, and useful*. Where do you see examples of these attributes (in your life and/or in the world)?

REFLECT

How do you think your life could be transformed if you had a habit of reading your Bible?

What could this habit practically look like for you?

TRANSFORMED BY PRAYER

There is a lot we could talk about when it comes to prayer, but tonight we're exploring the ways that we are transformed through prayer. The Bible says that God always hears us when we pray, and that God wants us to ask him for what we need and want. Still, prayer is not just about submitting a request to God and hoping He will change our circumstances. When we draw near to God we are changed through receiving truth and shelter in Him.

DISCUSS

How would you define *prayer*?

READ

PSALM 73

- What is the situation that Asaph is describing in verses 1-12?
- What does Asaph do about his concern? (verses 16-17)
- How does prayer change Asaph's perspective on the situation? (verses 18-20, 27)
- As far as we know, does God change Asaph's circumstances this time?
- How does God comfort Asaph?

HEBREWS 4:14-16

- Based on these verses, how does the Gospel affect our experience of prayer?

REFLECT

How can prayer play a role in our transformation as we seek to become more like Jesus?

If we're honest, it can be difficult to incorporate prayer into our busy lives. What's a simple, doable way you can carve out time to interact with God in prayer each day this week?

TRANSFORMED COMMUNITY

DISCUSS

What do you think makes someone a loving friend?

What are some things our culture/generation teaches about friendships that are not what Jesus teaches?

READ

ROMANS 12:9-21

- What are the commands listed in these verses?
- Have you experienced someone in your life demonstrating one of these commands? What was that like?

EPHESIANS 4:32

- How does the gospel affect the way we forgive other people?
- How would you define *forgiveness*? Work together to come up with a group definition.

JOHN 13:1-5, 12-15

- How does Jesus demonstrate love to his disciples in this situation?
- How did Jesus want the disciples to treat one another?

REFLECT

What is one way you can show love to someone in your Nav or church community this week?

Is there anyone you need to forgive or ask for forgiveness? What would that look like for you?

TRANSFORMED EVANGELISM

You may be wondering why the title for this week is Transformed Evangelism instead of Transformed by Evangelism. It may seem like an inconsequential difference, but we wanted to highlight the way that our experience of the Gospel changes the way we see and interact with other people, to the point that our evangelism is transformed—from an obligation or an intimidation, to a natural overflow of a changed perspective.

DISCUSS

When you hear the word *evangelism*, what comes to your mind?

How would you define *evangelism*? Work together to come up with a group definition.

READ

2 CORINTHIANS 5:11-21

- Why does Paul want to share the gospel?
- How is Paul's motivation for living transformed? (verse 15)
- How does Paul's experience with the gospel transform his view of other people?
- What do you think it means to be a new creation?
- Do you find yourself seeing lost people with the same perspective that Paul does, or do you feel some roadblocks?
- After studying this passage, are there any changes you would make to your original definition of evangelism?

REFLECT

What are some truths about your faith in Jesus that would be exciting to share with someone else?

What are obstacles you experience in sharing your faith?

What's your next step toward being an *ambassador of Christ*?

TRANSFORMED BY DISCIPLESHIP

DISCUSS

Often when we talk about discipleship we also use the phrase *investing in others*. What does it mean to *invest* in something?

Think of some people who have helped you grow spiritually. What did that look like? How did it help you?

What fears or roadblocks do you experience when you think of being disciplined? Discipling someone else?

READ

MATTHEW 28:19-20

- What does it mean to *make a disciple*?
- Why do you think Jesus commanded this?

COLOSSIANS 1:28-29

- How is God using Paul to help the church become more mature?

2 TIMOTHY 2:2

- Who is speaking to whom in this passage? What is the significance of their relationship?
- What do you think are some things that should be passed on from one disciple of Jesus to another?

REFLECT

How does the Gospel motivate you to invest in others?

What might be your next step toward becoming a disciple of Jesus or helping someone else in their journey?