



THE TRANSFORMED LIFE

Wednesday Nights- June 2021

College View church of Christ

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Lesson 1

GOD'S TRANSFORMING POWER

INTRODUCTION

For many people, change is hard. Whether it is new clothes, a new home, a new school, or a new career, it can all be difficult. Phrases like “old habits are hard to break” sum up the comfort of being “set in our ways”. While it may be fine to enjoy the same things over and over, we must also realize that one overwhelming message in God’s word is that we must completely change spiritually to walk with God (Matthew 18:3). Change does not begin with us, but rather with the One who has the power to make us like Him. God can change anything or anyone. The same power that made all things is available to us today if we are willing.

QUESTIONS

1. When you think of our God, what is the first word that comes to your mind? How far down the list would be the word *change*?
2. Why is it important to learn that God is unchanging before we can learn about His transforming power? Psalm 102:25-28; Lamentations 3:22-23; Malachi 3:6, Acts 4:11; Hebrews 13:6.
3. What was the world like before creation? (Genesis 1:1-3) How did God change that?

4. Name a person who lived in the Old Testament that was changed by the power of God against all odds. Genesis 12; Exodus 3; 1 Samuel 10. How did God do this?
5. Name a seemingly hopeless situation in the Bible that God changed. Ezekiel 37:1-14; Romans 8:11-13. How did God do this?
6. How does the Holy Spirit use God's word to change us? Hebrews 4:12; Colossians 3:16; 1 Thessalonians 2:13.
7. What is the connection between faith and the word of God? Romans 10:16-18; Hebrews 4:2.

FOCUS ON THE FAMILY

- Genesis 1:1-3 is so very important to our children's young faith. Makes sure you spend some time this week discussing the power of God in Creation with them.
- Building on point 1- Also share Romans 1:18-21. Point out that thankfulness and giving God glory should be our reaction to God's creation and all His blessings.
- One very important part of parenting/grandparenting is being a role model. What specifically do you need to do to be more consistent and "unchanging"?
- Songs for use in family worship
 - a. Our God He Is Alive
 - b. Days of Creation Song (little ones)
 - i. https://dltk-kids.com/bible/days_of_creation_song.htm

Lesson 2

TRANSFORMED BY HIS GLORY

INTRODUCTION

When we see the word transformation in the New Testament it is an interesting word. First, the word in the Greek language is metamorphoó (Strong's Greek: 3339), which is where we get our English word metamorphosis. As the beautiful butterfly begins as a newborn larva, we begin as a newborn babe in Christ and transform into the beautiful image of Jesus (2 Cor 3:18). Both are a step-by-step process that takes time, and both reveal the glory of God. This word is also interesting because it can also be translated transfiguration (Mt 17:2, Mk 9:2). Just like Jesus' humanity was peeled back as His glory shone through, the glory of God can shine through us as well.

QUESTIONS

1. What was one big question that needed to be answered at the transfiguration of Jesus? See the context- Luke 9:9; 18-20;26.
2. How does the Bible define glory? In reference to God? In reference to Christians?
3. What other things did Jesus do to reveal His glory? John 1:14; 2:11 How did the transfiguration of Jesus show His glory to Peter, James and John?

4. Compare and contrast the glory of the new covenant with the glory of the old using 2 Corinthians 3:7-17.
5. When does our transformation begin? Ephesians 2:13; Acts 22:16; Romans 6:3-6
6. How does the glory of God affect our transformation? 2 Corinthians 3:18; 4:4 and 4:6
7. What are some practical obstacles that prevent the glory of God from transforming us? See John 12:35-46.

FOCUS ON THE FAMILY

- Object lessons can leave a great impression on minds and hearts. Go find an insect that changes its image and discuss how this happens both to them and us by God's power. (Butterflies, ants, fleas, bees, beetles, moths, and wasps all go through complete metamorphosis.) Romans 6:1-6
- Discuss what happened at the transfiguration that set Jesus apart as the ONLY Son of God. Matthew 17:1-13 John 14:6
- Challenge your family to consider that every second of every day we should give it our all to be transformed into His image -then live like Jesus.
- Songs for use in family worship
 - a. More About Jesus
 - b. We Will Glorify
 - c. My Eyes Have Seen Your Glory

Lesson 3

TRANSFORMED OR CONFORMED

INTRODUCTION

Have you ever been in a situation where you really wanted to fit in? I think I was in 4th grade, and I absolutely had to have a pair of Guess jeans because the cool kids had them and I wanted to fit in. In many life situations, we do not want to stick out because it can be embarrassing, and sometimes being different can bring difficulty. But from a spiritual standpoint, to be like Jesus means being different. Not different for different sake, but the love we have for Him makes us want to be just like Him. Jesus told the apostles in John 16:33, “These things I have spoken to you so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation but take courage; I have overcome the world.” We must be transformed into His image or conform to the world.

QUESTIONS

1. Discuss the importance of becoming a living sacrifice by describing what a sacrifice was under the Old Covenant. Romans 12:1, Lev.22:20-22; Mal.1:7-8
2. What word did Paul base his appeal to us on in Romans 12:1? How does this word summarize the message of the book of Romans? See Romans 3:23, 6:3-4; 9:23; 11:30-31; 15:9; 2 Corinthians 1:3

3. What words come to your mind when you hear the word *conform*? What are some passions that draw us back into our old life? 1 Peter 1:14
4. Why is conformity also known as ignorance in 1 Peter 1:14, Romans 10:3, 2 Corinthians 2:11? Acts 3:17; Ephesians 4:18
5. Mind renewal is a daily process and a lifelong pursuit. How does Paul's prayer in Ephesians 3:14-21 give us strength and hope?
6. God's word has transforming power unlike any other words in the world. How much time should we devote to it? Ephesians 4:22-24
7. What are some specific things that we fill our minds with that get in the way or completely replace the word in our hearts?

FOCUS ON THE FAMILY

- Forgetfulness is something we all deal with. Discuss why God has put such an emphasis on making sure we remember His word.
- Challenge your family to stand firm even when the world pressures us to do things that are not pleasing to God. Discuss some specific circumstances where this may happen.
- Building off question 7- What is one thing your family can give up for a while (or permanently) to study God's word more together?
- Songs for use in family worship
 - a. Live For Jesus
 - b. Jesus Draw Me Ever Nearer
 - c. This Little Light

Lesson 4

TRANSFORMED ETERNALLY

INTRODUCTION

There are so many reasons for hope as a child of God. The God of hope fills us with every kind of hope through His word and promises (Rom. 15:13). One of the greatest hopes that we share is the hope of the resurrection. One day when Jesus returns, we all share the hope of being changed forever. While God does not give us every detail about what that will be like, we are given enough to long for that day. In this lesson, we will discuss the transformation of the faithful to be like Jesus when we finally see Him as He is (1 John 3:2).

QUESTIONS

1. Why aren't our earthly bodies built to last forever? 2 Corinthians 5:1-7
2. Philippians 3:21 gives an amazing reminder about Jesus transforming our body so we can be like Him. What about this fact makes you the most hopeful?
3. What is the greatest assurance God has given us about our glorious transformation? Romans 8:11; 1 Cor 6:14; 15:13
4. How does the hope of never dying again change our outlook on physical death? 1 Cor 15:50-54,58; Romans 6:8-11

5. Read Colossians 3:4. It is important that we understand that to have eternal life when Jesus comes, He must be our life now. How can we make Him our life now?
6. When Jesus comes in glory what will happen on that day? Matthew 25:31-46.
7. How must we live so that we will receive eternal life?

FOCUS ON THE FAMILY

- Tears and scrapes are a powerful reminder that we are not home. Discuss with your children that pain and sadness are a result of sin and living in a broken world. Then describe how wonderful Heaven will be.
- Encourage your family to pray for those suffering and in pain. Visit a nursing home when safe and discuss the words of Jesus from Matthew 25.
- Challenge your family to think about what it will be like to be in the presence of God Almighty. Remind them that being with God is the greatest part of Heaven.
- Songs for use in family worship
 - a. Won't It Be Wonderful There
 - b. When We All Get To Heaven
 - c. No Tears In Heaven