

Sermon Notes – 08.15.2021

Transformation and Change

A lot of good can come from personal “Change”

Act 17:30 "... God is now declaring to men that all *people* everywhere should repent,

Repent - Think again, reconsider, change direction, and hate your old ways

God opens your eyes, you “come to yourself,” you “come to your senses” – You see with new eyes and daily, you begin to reach for the things you can now see.

Luke 15:17-19 "But when he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired men have more than enough bread, but I am dying here with hunger! 18 'I will get up and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in your sight; 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me as one of your hired men.'"

Children & Spiritual formation – Children Need It / We Need It [Re-Parenting by God’s Grace]

Matthew 15:19 "For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, slanders.

Shema

Deuteronomy 6:4-7 "Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one! 5 "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. 6 "These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart. 7 "You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up.

Proverbial

Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go, Even when he is old he will not depart from it.

The way he should go - Or, according to the tenor of his way, i. e., the path especially belonging to, especially fitted for, the individual’s character. The proverb enjoins the closest possible study of each child’s temperament and the adaptation of “his way of life” to that.

Those Troublesome Missing Pieces – But we are complete in Him (Colossians 2:10)

Sometimes, at Teen Challenge, confronted by immature behavior in someone, I would close my eyes and ask myself, how old is the person that I would expect this behavior/attitude from? Then do what you could to bring them to maturity.

Ephesians 4:23-24 And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; 24 And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

Sometimes we need significant people in our lives to put a voice to things we aren’t getting.

Spiritual and Personal Immaturity – The Need to Grow Up and Become Complete

Recognizing Powerful Life Events & Crisis Points (points of turning)

- Seasons in life, times for change and growth
- Asking God to restore what the locusts have eaten

Joel 2:25 **“And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten...”**

You are asking God to provide you with that which should have grown at the right season but was destroyed. Asking God to provide more now, to replace what was destroyed, even if what you lost was due to your rebellion and God’s righteous judgements.

Beyond Mere “Change” “...be transformed by the renewing of your mind...” **Romans 12:2**

Transformation is more – Your nature, your innermost being is changed

Transformation - Sometimes God Just Does It

2 Corinthians 5:17-18 **Therefore if anyone is in Christ, *he is* a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come. 18 Now all *these* things are from God,** who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation,

1 Samuel 10:6-9 "Then **the Spirit of the LORD will come upon you mightily, and you shall prophesy with them and be changed into another man.** 7 "It shall be when these signs come to you, do for yourself what the occasion requires, for God is with you. 8 "And you shall go down before me to Gilgal; and behold, I will come down to you to offer burnt offerings and sacrifice peace offerings. You shall wait seven days until I come to you and show you what you should do." 9 Then it happened **when he turned his back to leave Samuel, God changed his heart;** and all those signs came about on that day.

Acts 9:6 [Saul of Tarsus] “And he **trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?**”

Transformational Decisions and Declarations - Ruth

Ruth 1:8-18 “And Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go, return each of you to her mother's house. May the LORD deal kindly with you as you have dealt with the dead and with me. 9 "May the LORD grant that you may find rest, each in the house of her husband." Then she kissed them, and they lifted up their voices and wept. 16 But **Ruth said, "Do not urge me to leave you *or* turn back from following you; for where you go, I will go, and where you lodge, I will lodge. Your people *shall be* my people, and your God, my God. 17 "Where you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. Thus may the LORD do to me, and worse, if *anything but* death parts you and me."** 18 When she saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.

These Are Not Mere Resolutions – Ruth Recognized the “Crisis Point,” The “Point of No Return.”

She stepped over the line and didn’t look back.

Luke 17:32-33 **"Remember Lot's wife. 33 "Whoever seeks to keep his life will lose it, and whoever loses *his life* will preserve it. ("For My Sake")**

