

This year at Believers Church our theme has been “Transformed”. We are transformed by salvation and sanctification.

2 Corinthians 3:18 And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

God is Holy and being transformed into His image is a transformation into His Holiness on a spiritual level and a very practical level as well. We are called to live as God’s Holy people.

Holiness Defined

Holy: Called Out; Set apart for God’s service and worship (Two things that I wish we all did).

A separated people. (Set apart for something special.) Last week we looked at the Biblical truth that: we are called to be Holy, a separated people.

(In Review) We Are Called to be Holy, a Separated People

Be Holy as God is Holy *1 Peter 1:13-19 ...“Be holy, because I am holy.”...*

We are the Holy Temples of God *1 Corinthians 6:19-20 ...your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.*

The Church is Made Up of Holy Temples *1 Corinthians 3:16-17 ...you are the temple of God and the Spirit of God dwells in you... God’s temple is sacred (Holy NKJ)*

Called Unto Holiness *1Thessalonians 4:7 For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life.*

As Holy People, Live for Jesus. *2 Corinthians 5:14-15 ...he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.*

A Holy Nation *1 Peter 2:9 ...you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, ...*

How Do We Live Holy?

Is it by the right things we say, good works we do, clothes we wear or don’t wear? Is it the church we go to or how much scripture we can quote?

You can have all the things you need to be Holy, have the right look, and never achieve Holiness!

Understand this: Because of the work of Christ Jesus on the cross, those who believe and are saved are declared “righteous”, in right standing with God. Now when it comes to holiness, in God’s eyes through the blood of Jesus Christ, He sees us as Holy, and even calls us saints.

BUT... we still are in the transformation process called sanctification here on this earth as we learn to walk in our holiness, to live it out daily. Becoming more like Jesus everyday, God is doing a holy work in our lives.

Transformation Tips to Living Holy

- **Choose Your Master**

Romans 6:11-13 In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. ¹² Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. ¹³ Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer every part of yourself to him as an instrument of righteousness.

Romans 6:19-23 I am using an example from everyday life because of your human limitations. Just as you used to offer yourselves as slaves to impurity and to ever-increasing wickedness, so now offer yourselves as slaves to righteousness leading to holiness. ²⁰ When you were slaves to sin, you were free from the control of righteousness. ²¹ What benefit did you reap at that time from the things you are now ashamed of? Those things result in death! ²² But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life. ²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- **Be Transformed by the Renewing of Your Mind**

Romans 12:1-2 Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God-- this is your spiritual act of worship. ² Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is-- his good, pleasing and perfect will.

You renew or reprogram your mind with God’s ways and thoughts revealed in the Word of God.

What are you programming into your mind?

- **JUNK IN = JUNK OUT** (books, radio, TV, movies, negative talk, gossip)

Next Life Transformation Step: This week I will pay attention to what I am programing into my mind.

- **Let the Word Wash You Clean.**

Eph 5:25-27 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her ²⁶ to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, ²⁷ and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. (NIV)

John 17:17 "Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth." (NKJ)

Psalms 119:9-11 How can a young person stay on the path of purity? By living according to your word. ¹⁰ I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands. ¹¹ I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.

Realize Jesus has washed you!

1 Corinthians 6:9-11 Or do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor men who have sex with men.

¹⁰ nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.

¹¹ And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

Hebrews 9:11-14 The author tells us that if the blood of bulls and goats in the Old Covenant could make people outwardly clean... How much more can the blood of Jesus cleanse us?

¹⁴ How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!

- **Dress for Success - Put Off the Old Man / Put on the New**

Colossians 3:12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

Ephesians 4:22-32 You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; ²³ to be made new in the attitude of your minds; ²⁴ and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

Take Off Falsehood Get Dressed in Truth

²⁵ Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body.

Take Off Anger Get Dressed in Forgiveness

²⁶ "In your anger do not sin": Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, ²⁷ and do not give the devil a foothold.

Take Off Stealing Get Dressed in Work

²⁸ Anyone who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with their own hands, that they may have something to share with those in need.

Take Off Unwholesome Talk Get Dressed in Encouragement

²⁹ Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

Take Off Things that Grieve the Holy Spirit

³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

³¹ Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice.

Get Dressed in Kindness and Compassion and Forgiveness.

³² Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each

Our choice to walk in the Spirit is a daily choice that we will have to make until the day we die.

Next Life Transformation Step: Today I will begin to dress for success, putting off the old and putting on the new.

- **Learn from Discipline**

Hebrews 12:3-11 Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart. ⁴ In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. ⁵ And have you completely forgotten this word of encouragement that addresses you as a father addresses his son? It says, "My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you, ⁶ because the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and he chastens everyone he accepts as his son." ⁷ Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father?

⁸ If you are not disciplined—and everyone undergoes discipline—then you are not legitimate, not true sons and daughters at all.

⁹ Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of spirits and live! ¹⁰ They disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, in order that we may share in his holiness. ¹¹ No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.

Religion without discipline is NEW AGE.

- **Learn from Grace**

Titus 2:11-14 For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. ¹² It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, ¹³ while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, ¹⁴ who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

Titus 3:3-7 At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another. ⁴ But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

Next Life Transformation Step: Since discipline and grace are my teachers, I will make a list of what they have taught me concerning Holy Living.

Life App Group and Family Devotional Application

1. On a scale of 1-10, (1- living unholy and 10 - living very holy) how would you rate your peers, Christians universal, and you personally. Are we living holy?
2. In what ways do people try to live holy or make it appear that they are living holy?
3. In your own words give example of what it means to be a slave of impurity or a slave to righteous which leads to holiness.
4. Paul says, “be transformed by the renewing of your mind”. How do you renew your mind? Ideas?
5. Give examples or observed stories of what we mean by “Junk In = Junk Out”.
6. What can we use as “Spiritual Soap”? According to Psalms 119 what should young men and women do to walk a path of purity? How well do you do that?
7. To dress for success there are certain things that we need to take off and certain things that we need to put on. What are some of the things that God’s Word tells us to take off? What are some of the things that the Word of God tells us to put on. How have you been dressing lately?
8. What two things are teaching us how to live holy? How does each one work?
9. Do you desire to live holy, or is being a worldly Christian good enough for you? If you’ve ever lived worldly as a believer, how did that make you feel? What do you think would happen if the church began to live truly transformed holy lives?