

Day 23 - Transformational Growth

We have all been invited to be more like Jesus. But none of us suddenly wakes up and is completely like Him. The work happens inside of us by the power of the Holy Spirit through the highs and lows of our lives. As we study God's word, truth is often revealed to us in new ways we have not experienced before. Over time, we are transformed one step at a time into more mature disciples who reflect the character of Jesus.

Do I look more like Jesus today than I did yesterday? Why or why not?

Our focus scripture for today is 2 Corinthians 3:18

"We all, with unveiled faces, are looking as in a mirror at the glory of the Lord and are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory; this is from the Lord, who is the Spirit."

As everyday followers of Jesus, we get the incredible privilege of standing before a Holy God with unveiled faces to behold His Glory. When we behold God for who He truly is, we can't take our eyes off Him. We want to know Him more. And God desires and welcomes us to behold His glory - His beauty, power, worth, and weight of importance. Over time, His mercy, His loving kindness, His patience, His love, and His holiness become more clear and compelling. A sense of awe for Him begins to grow in our hearts. This puts us in a position to be deeply transformed. This simple truth is the more we look at Jesus, the more we want to and will become like Jesus. The more we become like Jesus as worshipers, friends, apprentices, and guides, the more we begin to shine and influence those around us.

Pause to meditate on how "we become what we behold." Are you consistently and intentionally looking to Jesus? If not, what are you looking to as an example, and what needs to change to look to Jesus more?

As an invitation to a spiritual practice—a way to say "yes, Lord," take time today to write down the people in your life who consistently spend time with Jesus. How do they reflect the character and life of Jesus? How can their example encourage you to do the same?

Prepare to walk with God into the day before us, the who loves us and calls us to growth says in 2 Peter 1:5-8:

"⁵ For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with goodness, goodness with knowledge, knowledge ⁶ with self-control, self-control with endurance, endurance with godliness, ⁷ godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. ⁸ For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being useless or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Father, help us discern where you are leading us as a church - making Your invitation clear.

Jesus, help us become worshipers, friends, apprentices, and guides who live as disciple-makers in all areas of our everyday.

Spirit, help us become a disciple-making hub, loving the lost and proclaiming Jesus in all we do and say so our communities will flourish.