

Outline

Theme Statement:

The Christian community is called to be transformed into the image of Christ in order to make disciples of Jesus Christ.

Introduction:

1. Transformation is like a marathon
 - You won't run unless you know the purpose of why you want to run.
 - You must know the process to running a marathon.
2. "Therefore"
 - Because of Romans 1-11

Rom. 12:1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Definition of Transformation: To change one's external form from the inside-out

A. Purpose: The Believers' Purpose is Transformation

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1. Transformation into the image of Christ is the vision God has for you (Rom. 8:29; 2 Cor. 3:18)
2. Two Insights
 - a. Believers' are transformed by the light of the gospel
 - i. We shine as a result of transformation (2 Cor. 4:6; Eph. 5:8)

- ii. We attract or repel as a result of our light (Jn. 17; Matt. 5:16)
- b. God uses the believers transformation to make disciples (Matt. 28:18-20)

B. Process: The Process of Transformation is done by the Renewal of the Mind

Rom. 12:1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the **renewal of your mind**, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

1. Believers' renew their minds by believing in the word of God
 - a. Thought- Thinking a thought adds or subtracts to a particular belief (2 Cor. 10:5)
 - i. We think 60,000-70,000 thoughts a day. How do we take them all captive? We change what we are exposed to by intentionally setting our thoughts on material that pleases God (Rom. 8:5-8; 2 Cor. 3:18)
 - b. Action- Belief must be followed by action (Ja. 2:20)
 - i. Whatever you sow you will reap (Gal. 6:7)

C. Provision: The Provision for Transformation is from the Mercies of God

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1. God's mercy enables his grace. God's grace provides for the believers' transformation
2. The seed to sow comes from God (2 Cor. 9:10)
 - a. We must receive the implanted word of God (Ja. 1:21)
3. The grace to grow comes from God (1 Cor. 15:9-10)

D. Picture: The Picture of Transformation is a Life of True Worship

Rom. 12:1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to **present your bodies as a living sacrifice**, holy and **acceptable to God**, which is your **spiritual worship**. ²

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

1. War: The believer must be willing to deny self for Christ. (Matt. 16:24; 1 Cor. 9:24-27)
2. Victory:
 - a. The believer who walks by the Spirit of God will present his/her body as a living sacrifice to God. (Gal. 5:16-17)
 - b. The believer who walks by the Spirit of God will experience the fruit of true worship (Gal. 5:16-22)
3. Transformation is perfected by trials (Rom. 5:1-5)

Applying the Word:

1. Know your purpose in Christ
2. Intentionally walk out the word of God
3. Diligently seek God in all that you do