



THE POWER TO CHANGE

Pastor Brad Howard - February 25, 2024

2 Corinthians 3:18 ESV

"As God's Spirit works within us, we are being transformed to become more like Christ. This change, from one degree of glory to another, comes from the Lord."

WHY RESIST CHANGE?

Because I've become comfortable with the current version of me.

Because I don't believe long-term change is possible.

Because I'm tired of fighting.

FOUR KEYS TO TRUE CHANGE

1. TRUE CHANGE BEGINS WITH A RENEWING OF YOUR MIND

Ephesians 4:23 NLT

"There must be a spiritual renewal of your thoughts and attitudes."

Ephesians 4:17-19

"Don't keep living as the ungodly do, for they are hopelessly confused in their thinking. Their closed minds are full of darkness; they're far away from the LIFE God gives because they have shut their minds and hardened their hearts against him. They don't care anymore about right and wrong, and they've indulged themselves in all kinds of immorality, evil thinking, and the constant desire for more."

Ephesians 4:17-19 NLT

With the Lord's authority I say this: Live no longer as the Gentiles do, for they are hopelessly confused. Their minds are full of darkness; they wander far from the life God gives because they have closed their minds and hardened their hearts against Him. They have no sense of shame. They live for lustful pleasure and eagerly practice every kind of impurity.

2. TRUE CHANGE REQUIRES LEARNING THE TRUTH

John 17:17 NLT

Jesus: Make them holy by Your truth; teach them Your word, which is truth.

Ephesians 4:14-15 NLT

"Then we will no longer be like children, forever changing our minds about what we believe because someone has told us something different or made a lie sound like the truth. Instead, we will hold to the truth in love, becoming more and more like Christ, who is the head of his Body, the church."



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3. TRUE CHANGE REQUIRES DEEP CLEANING

Ephesians 4:22 GNT

"So get rid of your old self, which made you live as you used to—the old self that was being destroyed by its deceitful desires."

Hebrews 12:1 NCB

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that weighs us down and the sins that so easily distract us and with perseverance run the race that lies ahead of us,

4. TRUE CHANGE REQUIRES COACHES AND ACCOUNTABILITY.

Ephesians 4:11-13 NLT

Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do His work and build up the church, the body of Christ. This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ.

Ephesians 4:29 AMP

Do not let unwholesome [foul, profane, worthless, vulgar] words ever come out of your mouth, but only such speech as is good for building up others, according to the need and the occasion, so that it will be a blessing to those who hear [you speak].