

## Time for Transformation

Romans 12:1-2 (ESV)

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. 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.

The evidence that we need transformation is seen in the fact that we all know that we are simply not yet satisfied with ourselves.

We always seem to want to be better, even if we are not sure what better actually is.

“Thou hast made us for thyself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it finds its rest in thee.” - Augustine

The challenge of being *transformed* is that we live in a world that perpetually demands that we *conform* to it.

1 Peter 1:13-16 (ESV)

Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. As obedient children, *do not be conformed* to the passions of your former ignorance, but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.”

Conformed

Greek – Suschematizo

Suus = with

Schema = plan

The world is constantly teaching, threatening, and tempting us to “get with the plan”.

We must constantly be reminded of the futility of this world’s plan.

1 Corinthians 7:29, 31-32a (ESV)

This is what I mean, brothers: the appointed time has grown very short. From now on, let...those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the *present form* of this world is passing away. I want you to be free from anxieties.

We must constantly be reminded of the future of our transformation.

1 John 3:1-2 (ESV)

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.

In order for us to be transformed by Christ rather than conformed to this world we must behold.

2 Corinthian 3:18 (ESV)

And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

Behold Better

Daily habits to combat the world's teaching.

Weekly routines to confront the world's threats.

Special occasions to combat the world's temptations.

Transformation occurs as we commit to the daily habits of reading the Bible and praying.

Read the Bible for information.

Read the Bible for intimacy.

2 Timothy 3:14-17 (ESV)

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

Pray your weaknesses

Pray your wonder

Matthew 6:9-15 (ESV)

Pray then like this: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.