

SERIES: God's Plan For Your Abundant Life!

John 10:10 (NLT) ¹⁰ The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life. NIV - ... have life, and have it to the full.

Session#5 Living In Life-Giving Ways

FOUDATION VERSES

Proverbs 14:12 (NLT) ¹² There is a path before each person that seems right, but it ends in death.

1 John 2:15–17 (NLT) *Do Not Love This World* ¹⁵ Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. ¹⁶ For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father, but are from this world. ¹⁷ And this world is fading away, along with everything that people crave. But anyone who does what pleases God will live forever.

Transformed For The Better!

John 14:6 (NLT) ⁶ Jesus told him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.

Matthew 28:18–20 (NLT) ¹⁸ Jesus came and told his disciples, “I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. ²⁰ Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

Romans 12:1–2 (NLT) *A Living Sacrifice to God* And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. ² Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NLT) ¹⁷ This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

Galatians 6:14–16 (NLT) ¹⁴ As for me, may I never boast about anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. Because of that cross, my **interest in this world has been crucified**, and the world's **interest in me has also died**. ¹⁵ It doesn't matter whether we have been circumcised or not. **What counts is whether we have been transformed into a new creation**. ¹⁶ May God's peace and mercy be upon all who live by this principle; **they are the new people of God**.

Colossians 3:5–11 (NLT) ⁵ So put to death the sinful, earthly things lurking within you. Have nothing to do with sexual immorality, impurity, lust, and evil desires. Don't be greedy, for a greedy person is an idolater, worshipping the things of this world. ⁶ Because of these sins, the anger of God is coming. ⁷ **You used to do these things when your life was still part of this world**. ⁸ But now is the time to get rid of anger, rage, malicious behavior, slander, and dirty language. ⁹ Don't lie to each other, for you have stripped off your old sinful nature and all its wicked deeds. **Put on your new nature, and be renewed as you learn to know your Creator and become like him**. ¹¹ **In this new life**, it doesn't matter if you are a Jew or a Gentile, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbaric, uncivilized, slave, or free. Christ is all that matters, and he lives in all of us.

God has Action for us including LEAVE some things, DIMINISH in some areas, and INCREASE in other things!

EXAMPLES OF AREAS OF TRANSFORMATION

Ephesians 4:21–24 (NLT) ²¹ Since you have heard about Jesus and have learned the truth that comes from him, ²² **throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life**, which is corrupted by lust and deception. ²³ Instead, let the Spirit **renew your thoughts and attitudes**. ²⁴ **Put on your new nature, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy**.

⇒ AWAY WITH SIN, PUT ON YOUR NEW NATURE AND LET THE SPIRIT OF GOD RENEW YOUR THOUGHTS AND ATTITUDES.

⇒ SURRENDER TO GOD

1 John 2:15–17 (NLT) *Do Not Love This World* ¹⁵ **Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you**. ¹⁶ **For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father, but are from this world**. ¹⁷ **And this world is fading away, along with everything that people crave. But anyone who does what pleases God will live forever**.

⇒ CHANGES OUR LOVE FROM THE THINGS OF THIS WORLD, TO DOERS OF WHAT PLEASES GOD

Romans 8:6 (NLT) ⁶ So letting your sinful nature control your mind leads to death. But letting the Spirit control your mind leads to life and peace.

⇒ SURRENDER TO THE SPIRIT INSTEAD OF OUR SINFUL NATURE

Matthew 13:44–46 (NLT) *Parables of the Hidden Treasure and the Pearl* ⁴⁴ “The Kingdom of Heaven is like a treasure that a man discovered hidden in a field. In his excitement, he hid it again and sold everything he owned to get enough money to buy the field.

⁴⁵ “Again, the Kingdom of Heaven is like a merchant on the lookout for choice pearls. ⁴⁶ When he discovered a pearl of great value, he sold everything he owned and bought it!

⇒ Valuing God’s Kingdom (The King’s Will in Our Life) & Valuing God’s Guidance

Matthew 6:10 (NLT) ¹⁰ May your Kingdom come soon. May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

1 Peter 4:10 (NLT) ¹⁰ God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another.

⇒ PURPOSE

1 Corinthians 12:7 (NLT) ⁷ A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other.

Romans 12:4–6 (NLT) ⁴ Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, ⁵ so it is with Christ’s body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other. ⁶ In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well.

1 Peter 2:9 (NLT) ⁹ But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God’s very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

⇒ IDENTITY IN CHRIST

Ephesians 6:10–17 (NLT) *The Whole Armor of God* ¹⁰ A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on all of God’s armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. ¹² For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.

¹³ Therefore, put on every piece of God’s armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm. ¹⁴ Stand your ground, putting on the belt of truth and the body armor of God’s righteousness. ¹⁵ For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News so that you will be fully prepared. ¹⁶ In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows of the devil. ¹⁷ Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

⇒ Transformed to see and fight the SPIRITUAL BATTLE

Called To Be Separate

2 Corinthians 6:14–18 (NLT) *The Temple of the Living God* ¹⁴ Don't team up with those who are unbelievers. ¹⁵ How can righteousness be a partner with wickedness? How can light live with darkness? ¹⁵ What harmony can there be between Christ and the devil? ¹⁶ How can a believer be a partner with an unbeliever? ¹⁶ And what union can there be between God's temple and idols? For we are the temple of the living God. As God said:

"I will live in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they will be my people.

¹⁷ Therefore, come out from among unbelievers, and separate yourselves from them, says the Lord. Don't touch their filthy things, and I will welcome you. ¹⁸ And I will be your Father, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty."

Psalms 1:1–3 (NLT) ¹ Oh, the joys of those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or stand around with sinners, or join in with mockers. ² But they delight in the law of the Lord, meditating on it day and night. ³ They are like trees planted along the riverbank, bearing fruit each season. Their leaves never wither, and they prosper in all they do.

2 Corinthians 4:18 (NLT) ¹⁸ So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever.

Transformed Into Life-Giving Ways By:

1. Continual Surrender
2. Being a True Follower
3. Praying & Being a Worshiper
4. Welcoming The Holy Spirit
5. Reading The Word & Study
6. Choosing Love
7. Connecting in Relationship with Christians

If you know God, this life is as bad as it gets!

If you do not know God, this life is as good as it gets!

Salvation Prayer

"Dear God, I know I'm a sinner, and I ask for your forgiveness. I believe Jesus Christ is Your Son. I believe that He died for my sin and that you raised Him to life. I want to trust Him as my Savior and follow Him as Lord, from this day forward. Guide my life and help me to do your will. I pray this in the name of Jesus. Amen."

Prayer Thoughts or Discussion Items For the Week:

- Have you experienced God transform areas of your life by taking away wrong thinking or wrong actions?
- Is God at work to transform your thoughts, actions, or habits into life-giving ways?
- Which areas does He want to change?
- Are you open to Him doing the good work of life-giving change in you?