

The Transforming Power of Grace Galatians 1:11-24

Intro: Transformations happen in many ways, but none are so great as a spiritual transformation like what happened to the Apostle Paul (Acts 9:20-22; Acts 22:14-16; Acts 26:18-20).

I. The _____ of Paul Changed – 1:11-12

A. _____ – Teach according to what he was taught by man.

B. _____ – Preach the Gospel.

II. The _____ of Paul Changed – 1:13-17

Illustrate: Rocky IV – “If I can change, and you can change, everybody can change.”

God brings the transformation that would be otherwise impossible. Paul’s mindset changed because of transforming grace.

A. God _____ In – 1:15

B. God _____ Apart – 1:15

C. God _____ Paul – 1:15

D. God _____ Paul – 1:16-17

Key Application: The mindset to guard and be grounded in grace.

1. See salvation as God-initiated. God stepped into our lives.
2. God chose us before we ever chose him.
3. No person is beyond the reach of grace or salvation.
4. There is growth to be had after being saved.

III. The _____ about Paul Changed – 1:18-24

The Judea churches heard “He who formerly...preaches the faith.”

A. Acknowledged the _____ of Grace

B. Acknowledged the _____ of Grace

Key Application: The message about our lives can also be one of transformation by grace: “He or she who was formerly is now...”

Conclusion: This transforming power of grace enables us to say much more powerfully and confidently than Rocky, “Grace can change me. Grace can change you. Grace can change everybody.”

Small Group Questions

1. What are some of the most significant changes (good or bad) that you have seen in our country’s recent history?

2. Describe Paul’s conversion and transformation. What amazes you most about it?

How is it similar to the conversion experience of all Christians?

3. How should Paul’s conversion, transformation, and commission to be an apostle and preacher encourage us?

4. What stands out to you about the four actions of “transforming grace” that God took to transform Paul’s life?

Discuss how each of them applies to our lives today?

5. What were people saying about Paul’s conversion? What does this suggest about the grace of God for life transformation?

6. How is God challenging you to think differently?

7. What is a key lesson from this study that you can apply to your life?