

The Great Reversal – Part 5

Change by Pastor Rick – 4/25/21

Scriptures: Ephesians 2:4-7; Ephesians 1:18-21; Ephesians 3:16-19; Romans 8:29; Ephesians 4:22-24; Colossians 3:1-5

OPENING: What would you like to change?

Bible Study Questions:

1. In last week's message, Mary of Magdalene and Thomas received the love of Jesus and personalized it. Share how you were able to personalize what Jesus has done for you this past week.
2. How does Ephesians 2:4-7 hold a secret to lasting change? Is there a verse that is most helpful for you as you try to make changes?
3. Pastor Rick shared, "Spiritual resurrection means that we are in a sense, living in heaven while still on earth. We're living in the future while still being in the present." How do we navigate this double-residence?
4. So often Christians can fall into the trap of thinking we are saved just to gain a ticket to heaven. How can we lovingly challenge this belief? Why have we been saved? (Romans 8:29)
5. Tim Keller said "Ultimate love cannot be displaced—it can be only be replaced with a more powerful one." How is meditating on the love of God foundational to change?
6. Look at Ephesians 4:22-24 and Colossians 3:1-4 for a model of how to change into the likeness of Jesus. What role does having adequate time, margin, and space to slow down affect change? And how do idols, self-imposed guilt, and surface commitments play a part in how we change?
7. Pastor Rick advocates a two-step process to change: (1) Take off the old self, putting it to death; and (2) Put on the new self, by setting our minds on things above. How do we practically do this? Which step comes easier for you?
8. What else stood out to you in the message that you'd like to share?
9. How can your group help you move forward in one small area of change this week?

CLOSE IN PRAYER, using the passages from Ephesians as a guide.

BONUS CONTENT on Ephesians 3 and Knowing the Unknowable Love of Christ--

<https://bible.org/seriespage/lesson-23-knowing-unknowable-love-christ-ephesians-317b-19>