

The Potter's Christian Life Center

SERMON NOTES
with Pastor Greg Formey



Being Open To Change

Jeremiah 18:6

June 14, 2026

We have discovered that real, lasting transformation does not happen by accident. God uses specific turning points to disrupt the way we think; then He moves us in the direction of His purposes.

To recap where we have been, we have learned that change occurs in people's lives when they hurt enough that they have to, learn enough that they want to, and receive enough that they are able to.

But there is one final, critical element. None of these three situations will alter your life if your heart is locked shut. Real transformation requires that **We must be open enough to allow change.**

This requires two things:

Truth - agreeing with what God says about our condition.

Transparency - dropping our defensive masks and letting God access our deepest vulnerabilities.

PLIABLE IN THE POTTER'S HANDS

To understand what it means to be open to change, we must look at the ultimate biblical picture of flexibility: the relationship between the potter and the clay.

Jeremiah 18:6 - Like clay in the hand of the potter, so are you in my hand.

Think about how a potter works. Clay can only be shaped if it remains soft, moist, and responsive to the potter's touch. If the clay hardens prematurely or resists the physical pressure of His fingers, it creates a flaw; it mars the design. The potter cannot do anything with a hard lump of dry material except break it down and start over.

Being open means staying "soft" so the Lord can mold your character and redirect your life as He sees fit. It means saying, "Lord, I am not the master designer of my life; You are. Press into the areas that need to bend."

Imagine placing a heavy weight on top of a solid block of granite. What happens? Nothing. The granite is rigid and does not yield. If you apply too much force, it will eventually crack and shatter, but it will never change its shape in response to the force. Now, imagine placing that same weight on a warm lump of wax. The wax yields. It receives the impression of the

weight and shifts shape without breaking.

FROM STONE TO FLESH

We become like granite because human nature naturally struggles for self-protection. When we hurt or experience fear, we tend to build defensive walls around our minds; we harden.

But God promises in **Ezekiel 36:26**

I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh."

A heart of stone is rigid and completely resistant to change. It cannot feel and it cannot grow. It represents a closed mind that says, "This is just who I am, and I will never change."

In contrast to that, a heart of flesh responds, is sensitive, and is easily influenced by the Holy Spirit.

Consider King David; he committed the sins of adultery and murder. For nearly a year, he wore a mask that covered his unrighteousness. He hid his actions under a heart of stone. But when the prophet Nathan confronted him with the truth, David's stoney heart broke open.

In Psalm 51, he did not make excuses or defend his behavior. He became totally transparent as he cried out, "Create in me a pure heart, O God." Because he did, God was able to completely rebuild his life and legacy.

YIELDING TO GOD'S HIGHER VIEWPOINT

Being open to change also means letting go of our own plans. In **Isaiah 55:8-9**, the Lord reminds us:

**8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord.
9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.** ESV

Think about driving a car down the highway using your GPS. You might think you know the fastest route home. But the app alerts you to turn right at the next exit because there is a major accident three miles ahead that you cannot see. If you are stubborn and rigid, you will ignore the alert and end up trapped in traffic for a very long. But if you trust that the GPS has a higher, bird's-eye view of the highway, you will be flexible and follow the new directions.

God is our ultimate navigator. Being open means being willing to change your mind when He alerts your conscience, even if you do not fully understand the reason why.

Conclusion

Finally, being open to change means letting go of your past. God requires that you have the flexibility to look to the future with anticipation and trust God, especially when the path ahead looks like a wilderness.

Identify one area where you have been rigid, stubborn, or defensive. Bring that area to God in prayer with total transparency. Say, "Lord, I agree with your truth, and I open the door of my heart to you. Mold me, change me, and have your way."