

The Transformation That Follows

Meaning of "Transformation"

a thorough or dramatic change in form or appearance.

"its landscape has undergone a radical transformation"

synonyms: [change](#), [alteration](#), [mutation](#), [conversion](#), [metamorphosis](#), [transfiguration](#), [sea change](#)

1. Read Luke 19:1-10....The Chief Tax Collector

Background:

- the position of chief tax collector was a despised person in culture.
- they had sided with the Romans
- they charged too much and skimmed off the top at the expense of the people
- he was wealthy by means of extortion and dishonest gain
- they were considered traitors

2. Read John 4:4-30, 39-42

Background:

- women were seen as lower class and especially a Samaritan whom the Jews hated
- she was a Samaritan
- she had had five husbands

Take some time and discuss your thoughts about these two people and the change we see.

What changed in your own life when you came to Christ?

C.S. Lewis wrote a book called "The Great Divorce"

It has been said that he chose that title because faith requires a choice. If we truly examine it, we must decide which side of the line we want to live on, and that choice causes us to divorce ourselves from things once held onto. We aren't the same after we make the choice.

Think of the word transformation as two words: transfer and formation

In both these people both happened as did with us as we became disciples of Christ.

Sin, (separation from God) was transferred to Christ at the cross so life could be transferred to us!

Christ's life is being formed in us through the power of the Holy Spirit with evidence!

That's transformation!!

Both people showed evidence. Both divorced things once held onto!!

Zacchaeus gave half his possessions to the poor and paid back four times what he had ripped off!

The Samaritan women ran back to her village and shared with them who she met!

Read Ephesians 4:22-31, Ephesians 5:8:11

Discuss the transformation you see in these passages. These should be an ongoing process in our lives. Not just something that happened when we placed our faith in Christ.

Again, you will see as C.S. Lewis says, a divorce must happen. Old ways to Christ's ways.

Read Galatian 4:19...Christ be formed in you.. Romans 12:1-2

The word formed speaks of a change of character, being conformed to the character of Christ.