

Making Changes

(The Road to Recovery - Part 5)

Pastor Bob Johnson, February 14th, 2016

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Voluntarily yield to every change God wants to make in my life and humbly ask him to remove/replace my character faults.

"Offering yourselves as a living sacrifice to God, dedicated to his service and pleasing to him ... let God transform you inwardly by a complete change of your mind."
Romans 12:1-2 (TEV)

I. WHERE DO MY CHARACTER FAULTS COME FROM?

- My **C** _____
Genetics explain predisposition but don't excuse sin!
- My **C** _____
Character faults are often linked to old wounds.
- My **C** _____
Character faults are often positive qualities being misused.

II. WHY IS IT HARD TO CHANGE THEM?

1. Because I've had them _____.
2. Because I _____ with them.
3. Because they have a _____.
4. Because _____ discourages me.

III. HOW DO I ALIGN WITH GOD'S CHANGE PROCESS?

Be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Romans 12:2 (NIV)

1. FOCUS ON CHANGING _____ AT A TIME
"An intelligent person aims at wise action, but a fool starts off in many directions."
Proverbs 17:24 (TEV)

2. FOCUS ON VICTORY _____ AT A TIME
"Give us this day our daily bread."
Matthew 6:11 (NASB)

"Therefore do not be anxious for tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."
Matthew 6:34 (NASB)

3. FOCUS ON _____, NOT WILL POWER
"Can a leopard take away his spots? Nor can you who are so used to doing evil now start being good."
Jeremiah 13:23 (LB)

"For I can do everything God asks me to with the help of Christ who gives me the strength and power."
Philippians 4:13 (LB)

4. FOCUS ON WHAT I _____, NOT WHAT I _____
"And now, brothers, as I close this letter, let me say this one more thing: Fix your thoughts on what is true and good and right. Think about things that are pure and lovely, and dwell on the fine, good things in others. Think about all you can praise God for and be glad about."
Philippians 4:8 (LB)

5. FOCUS ON _____ GOOD, NOT _____ GOOD
"If you are guided by the Spirit you will be in no danger of yielding to self-indulgence."
Galatians 5:16 (JB)

6. FOCUS ON _____ WHO HELP ME, NOT HINDER ME
"As iron sharpens iron, so people can improve each other."
Proverbs 27:17 (NCV)

7. FOCUS ON _____ NOT _____
"And I am sure that God who began the good work within you will keep right on helping you grow in his grace until his task within you is finally finished ..."
Philippians 1:6 (NLT)