

Change or Transformation? (Question 3)

Quick Recap

Three Transformative Questions I Want You to Ask Yourself Before 2021?

Question #1: Do I see what God is saying and doing now in the world?

- Don't be derailed by the enemy
- Don't Presume from your own perspective
- "Get Up, Go Back" with renewed hope in God's Providence

Question #2: How am I joining Him in those efforts?

- Remember Who you Are
- Discerning Instead of Reacting
- Think & Do Kingdom

Question 3: How does God want to transform my thinking about my "neighbor"?

- The greatest sadness for me in 2020 is not the pandemic, or the economic fallout, or the fear or anxiety – It's the incredible depravity that has gripped our times where people who have ceased to have any respect for or value other human beings.

Romans 12:2

Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think...

Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. **Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive** anyone who offends you. **Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.** Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵ And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body **you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful.**

Colossians 3:12-14

"Since God Chose You to be the Holy People..."

John 13:34-35

Love each other. Just as I have loved you...Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples."

1 Cor. 13:7 **Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.**

- **The Context is Relational**
 - Never Quits
 - Never Cheats the Commitment to the Relationship
 - Always Believes in God's Power to Transform
 - No Offense Will Ever Change the Above

“Make Allowances for Each Other’s Faults, and Forgive...”

- If you make allowances for someone, you accept behavior from them that you would not normally accept, because of a problem that they have.
 - You set aside allowances of **Grace** to pay for the probable future offenses.
 - **Where are these storehouses of Grace you draw from?**

Titus 3:1-8

Remind the believers to submit to the government and its officers. They should be obedient, always ready to do what is good. ² They must not slander anyone and must avoid quarreling. Instead, they should **be gentle and show true humility to everyone.**

³ Once we, too, were foolish and disobedient. We were misled and became slaves to many lusts and pleasures. Our lives were full of evil and envy, and we hated each other. ⁴ But—

When God our Savior revealed his kindness and love, ⁵ he saved us, not because of the righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He washed away our sins, giving us a new birth and new life through the Holy Spirit. ⁶ He generously poured out the Spirit upon us through Jesus Christ our Savior. ⁷ Because of his grace he made us right in his sight and gave us confidence that we will inherit eternal life.

⁸ This is a trustworthy saying, and **I want you to insist on these teachings so that all who trust in God will devote themselves to doing good.** These teachings are good and beneficial for everyone.

- **It’s NOT about hiding what you truly feel...or Putting on a Good Face...**
- **It is about seeing them through the lens that GOD SEES YOU....**
 - “Clothe yourselves in ...”
 - tenderhearted mercy
 - kindness
 - humility
 - gentleness
 - patience
 - love

Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.”

Matthew 6:14-15

If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will forgive you. But if you refuse to forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins.

“You are Called to Live in Peace...And Always be Thankful.”

Matthew 5:9 God blesses those who work for peace, for they will be called the children of God.