

## ***Taking the Right Steps to Grow***

### ***Study Questions***

#### **Getting Started**

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this week's message did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening or troubling? Explain.
2. Desiring to grow, or get better is something is a common desire. In your opinion what makes realizing that change or growth so difficult? What has been a barrier to you?
3. Pastor reviewed from last week that our modern sacrifices for God involve making God honor choices. What are some reason we struggle to make these sacrifices?
4. What comes to your mind when you read that first thing that the Bible says in Romans 12:2 "Do not be conformed to this world?"
5. The influence of the world can be very subtle in our lives. What are some way that you have noticed it's influence in your life?
6. Pastor shared from 1 John 2:15 how we have to choose between following God or following our culture. Why is it impossible to ride the fence and do both?
7. 1 John 2:16 point out three areas that our "love for the world" is revealed. Share your observations with the group of these.
8. One the surface the idea of being transformed seems to say "work harder." But it really is saying to put ourselves in a place when God can work in us. Why is this so important?
9. Pastor shared a verse that God has used to transform him. Share with your group a verse that God has used to transform you.
10. Why is it so important that we prepare our minds in advance for action? ( See 1 Peter 1:13)

#### **Digging Deeper**

11. If our greatest battle is between our ears, what is one area that Jesus would have you work on this week?

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### ***Series: Transformed***

*Sunday January 24, 2016*

*"You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, take care that you are not carried away with the error of lawless people and lose your own stability. But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen."*  
*2 Peter 3:17–18 ESV*

#### **Avoid Being Sucked into \_\_\_\_\_**

*"I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual (logical) worship."* Romans 12:1 ESV

*"Do not be conformed to this world,"* Romans 12:2a ESV

**Conformed:** to be or become behaviorally or socially similar to; conceived of as being or becoming shaped or molded to a certain pattern.

**...being shaped by the \_\_\_\_\_ and  
\_\_\_\_\_ of those around us**

#### **So what is the world?**

*"Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world."*  
*1 John 2:15–16 ESV*

**I Have to Choose Between \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_**

*"I have given them your word, and the world has hated them*

*because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.”*  
*John 17:14 ESV*

1. My \_\_\_\_\_
2. My \_\_\_\_\_
3. My \_\_\_\_\_

**Put Myself in a Place where** \_\_\_\_\_

*“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the  
renewal of your mind, ...”*  
*Romans 12:2b ESV*

*“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the  
renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will  
of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.” Romans 12:2 ESV*

**I Need to Change the Way I** \_\_\_\_\_

*“Do not put yourself forward in the king’s presence or stand in the  
place of the great, for it is better to be told, “Come up here,” than to  
be put lower in the presence of a noble.” Proverbs 25:6–7 ESV*

**My Greatest Battle is Between My** \_\_\_\_\_

*“For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine  
power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments and every lofty  
opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought  
captive to obey Christ,”*  
*2 Corinthians 10:4–5 ESV*

*“Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-  
minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at  
the revelation of Jesus Christ.”*  
*1 Peter 1:13 ESV*