SPG SERIES – Study 6

Continuous Transformation

Summary of Past Studies:
We began the journey of going to the heart of God by coming to the understanding that we must build unquenchable passion for fellowship/intimacy with Him, yearning to be in His presence throughout each day. In order to be on that journey and stay on it, we must live by the Spirit. It is the Spirit that dwells within us. Isn't that incredible to think that the very Spirit of God lives within you?

"Live by the Spirit and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature."
Gal. 5:16

As a result of living by the Spirit, God's manifest power comes alive within us. We will not gratify our wrong desires. Scripture also states:

"Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what the nature desires;
but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires.
Rom. 8:5

We each have the all powerful God in us and He wants to exhibit Himself completely in us and through us. We desire to be in the very **presence of God**, experience Him fully and receive many "adventure breakouts"! As we receive adventure breakouts, we are being freed to live in the joy of the Lord. We are given freedom to overflow with the Fruit of the Spirit. Wow! Just imagine yourself living each day **experiencing & sharing His fullness** with others.

We then looked at:

"Dear children keep away from anything that might take God's place in your hearts."
1 John 5:21

We concluded that we needed to create more "**margin**" (10%) in our lives, having more time with the Lord and including Him in everything. We wanted to include Him in every moment of what we are doing; creating time & awareness of His presence:

"We proclaim to you what we ourselves have actually seen and heard so that you
may have fellowship with us and our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son, Jesus Christ.
We are writing these things so you may fully share our joy."
1 John 1:3,4

Being in fellowship with God, being in His presence is worth everything. We concluded that we needed to apply the **3-3-1 Principle**.

1. We need to recognize our fellowship, what the hand of God is doing in our lives every day, the Kingdom Moments!
2. We need to recognize the sin we had engaged in and needed to confess and repent of it, hating the very sin that took us out of fellowship and being in His Presence.
3. We want to recognize the message God gave us that day.

Cultivating unquenchable passion then focused on reminding ourselves:

"for child of God defeats the evil world, and we achieve this victory through our faith."
1 John 5:4

We are victors by the power of God that lives in us. He can overcome any issue within and outside of us with our cooperation and authenticity.

> "So you must remain faithful to what you have been taught from the beginning. If you do, you will remain in fellowship with the Son and with the Father. And in this fellowship, we enjoy the eternal life He promised us.
> 1 John 2:24

Being in "fellowship" means to stay "in Him" as illustrated in John 15: "remain in the vine" in order to receive sustenance from Him. As you remain in the vine throughout each day, you will receive from God the very things you need. It's not just getting a meal from your quiet time; it's staying desperate for Him throughout the day because you will need Him. You must watch out for anti-christs, for the enemy that will lead you astray. If led astray, you must stay free by confessing and repenting of your sin throughout the day.

In Study 5 we were reminded to be authentic without hypocrisy:

> "Yet they act so pious! They come to the temple everyday and *seem delighted* to learn about Me. They *act like a righteous nation* that would never abandon the laws of its God. They ask Me to take action on their behalf, ***pretending they want to be near Me***."
> Isaiah 58:2

The Israelites were fasting to please themselves, pretending they wanted to be near God, hypocrisy was evident by not caring for the poor and oppressed, not delighting in the Sabbath. Delighting in the Sabbath means we would change our whole focus to enjoying Him, being filled by Him, sharing Him as our purpose that day and every day. We can have this unquenchable passion, we can be "10's" in exhibiting the Fruit of the Spirit, but it requires **being authentic, not pretending** but **allowing the Lord to access the heart issues He wants to reveal and from which He wants to free us**. We can think about these things and ponder them, but if we aren't experiencing transformation, we are not going to have adventure breakouts that lead to the heart of God. The adventure breakouts will move us ever closer to being in greater fellowship with the Father and the Son, and in their presence continually. We should have the expectation that we are going to receive many heart healings and redirections in our lives. These breakouts will be dramatic so that not only you see them, but others will as well. Each transformation you experience will move you closer to the **Lord's continual presence**. Praise God!!

Study 6

Transformation, what a marvelous word: metamorphoo means "changed into another form".

> "…and we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into His likeness with ever increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit."
> 2 Cor. 3:18

If we are experiencing transformation, we are being changed into His glorious image. Just think, being like Jesus in every way, not falling to temptation, being fully satisfied in every way, living in the hope of the eternal Kingdom. We are being transformed to loving the Lord with all our hearts, no longer in bondage to sin.

Let's remind ourselves, why transformation? Sin, wrong loves, wounds, keep us from the love of God, they separate us. How can we go on pretending about our relationship with You, thinking we are much healthier than we are…when I continue or condone my patterned sin and wrong loves.

"If we have cherished sin in our heart (NIV), if I regard iniquity (foolishness),
if I regard wickedness in my heart (NASV), if I had confessed my sin in my heart (NLT),
if I have been cozy with evil (Message), the Lord would not have listened (heard me) (NIV)
Ps. 66:18

We cannot go on pretending we are so spiritually healthy when we don't look like Jesus.

"Anyone who has faith in Me will do as I what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these..."
John 14:12

Too often, when we experience transformation we stop at the healing vs. continuing to find the next item on God's list for me. When we search for Him with all of our hearts (Deut. 4:29) we will continue to find issues that separate us from His intimacy. Just think how glorious it is to be in His presence, to be "one" with our magnificent God, to hear His voice, His unique message for us. If we carried this attitude continually, we will be saturated by the Presence of God! We will have pure hearts, we will have unquenchable passion.

TRANSFORMATION BIBLE STUDY

Consider the transformation that took place in Nineveh as a result of Jonah finally doing what God told him to do. Read Jonah, chapters 1-3, and record your thoughts about transformation.

Nineveh was an important city. It was the capital of the great Assyrian Empire. It had more than 120,000 people. Here we see a major example of transformation.

Chapter 1:
Why was Nineveh about to be judged? _____
_____

To what extent will God go to get your attention, as illustrated in Jonah's life? _____
_____

Jonah had impact on his shipmates. They came to believe that the God of heaven was the Creator and powerful. What did they do as a result of their experience with Jonah and the God of heaven? _____
_____

Chapter 2: Jonah's Prayer
The Lord gets Jonah's attention and brings his life up from the pit. What does Jonah declare in 2:8? _____

Then Jonah vows to fulfill what God told him to do. (1:1,2)

Chapter 3: Jonah goes to Nineveh and proclaims God's message.
Record how the Ninevites responded ____ _____
_____

Record the 4 points of the king's proclamation:

1.
2.
3.
4.

What was their hope (v.9)

What did God do? (v.10)

What conclusions about transformation would you make from this? _____
_____
_____

Individual transformation must take place in order to bring about cultural transformation!

How quickly can transformation take place? _____

What does this say about transformation for you personally? _____
_____
_____
_____

The untold story here is that Nineveh was transformed by the grace of God, but eventually went back to their sin. Whether they experienced true transformation "being changed into another form forever" or they weren't vigilant in watching for the enemy to take them astray, we don't know. It is reasonable to say that if we get serious about transformation and recognize it, while staying on the journey toward the hope of being in the presence of God in a greater way to reach the heart of God…we will less likely fall back. Let's begin by recognizing our adventure breakouts (transformation). Record your most recent adventure breakout/transformation. (To qualify, it must demonstrate recognizable change in you that you have seen and perhaps others recognize as well.) If possible, recognize an additional adventure breakout. We will call these AB-1, and AB-2 (AB= adventure breakout). (There will be a form to record additional Adventure Breakouts for future use.)

How have you and God cooperated in an AB? How is your life different? What impact has it had? Praise God for His work!

AB-1 _____
_____

AB-2_____
_____

Now let's define what God wants to do in us and through us in the next 30 days. Consider what the Lord would have you do to experience transformation. Be blessed. I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

Adventure Breakout Plan

Month: _____

Kingdom Moments:

(Recognizing the Hand of God in you, for you and through you!)

_____

_____

Kingdom Living Plan:

Celebrating Being in His presence

Messages heard from God

_____

_____

Intimacy Event: (Mini retreat of 2 or more hours, 1x per month, alone with Him in silence)

What I experienced:

_____

_____

Transformation Challenge:

What God is looking to do in me:

_____

_____

_____

What I am asking God to do:

_____

_____

_____

Fruitfulness Plan:

Where I am led to invest my life for the Kingdom:

_____

_____

_____

How passionate my love for Him was:

(Scored at the end of the month.)

_____

1 5 10

How did it display itself?

_____

_____

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