

Core Value #2
“Spiritual Transformation”
Selected Scriptures
September 19, 2010

“This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!”
2 Corinthians 5:21

“My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me.” Galatians 2:20a (NLT)

1. THE PICTURE OF SPIRITUAL TRANSFORMATION.

“Jesus entered Jericho and made his way through the town. There was a man there named Zacchaeus. He was the chief tax collector in the region, and he had become very rich. He tried to get a look at Jesus, but he was too short to see over the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree beside the road, for Jesus was going to pass that way. When Jesus came by, He looked up at Zacchaeus and called him by name. ‘Zacchaeus!’ He said. ‘Quick, come down! I must be a guest in your home today.’ Zacchaeus quickly climbed down and took Jesus to his house in great excitement and joy. But the people were displeased. ‘He has gone to be the guest of a notorious sinner,’ they grumbled. Meanwhile, Zacchaeus stood before the Lord and said, ‘I will give half my wealth to the poor, Lord, and if I have cheated people on their taxes, I will give them back four times as much!’ Jesus responded, ‘Salvation has come to this home today, for this man has shown himself to be a true son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost.’” Luke 19:1-10 (NLT)

❖ None of us really measure up.

“... for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. . .” Romans 3:23 (NKJV)

❖ All of us are desperately seeking something.

“You will seek Me and find Me when you seek Me with all your heart.” Jeremiah 29:13 (NIV)

❖ Jesus knows who you are & what you need.

“... Do not be afraid, for I have ransomed you. I have called you by name; you are mine.” Isaiah 43:1b (NLT)

“Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.” Revelation 3:20 (NKJV)

2. THE PROOFS OF SPIRITUAL TRANSFORMATION.

➤ Growing love for God's word.

“Oh, how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day. . . Therefore I love Your commandments more than gold, yes, than fine gold!” Psalms 119:97, 127 (NKJV)

➤ Growing love for God's people.

“We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love our brothers. Anyone who does not love remains in death.” 1 John 3:14 (NIV)

➤ Growing desire to obey God.

“And we can be sure that we know Him if we obey his commandments.” 1 John 2:3 (NLT)

➤ Never ashamed of God's Gospel.

“I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile.” Romans 1:16 (NIV)

“For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.” 1 Corinthians 1:18 (NIV)

3. THE PROCESS OF SPIRITUAL TRANSFORMATION.

❖ I put my faith in Jesus Christ.

"If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by confessing with your mouth that you are saved." Romans 10:9-10 (NLT)

❖ Jesus puts His spirit in me.

"You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ. But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness." Romans 8:9-10 (NIV)

"And the Lord—who is the Spirit—makes us more and more like Him as we are changed into his glorious image."
2 Corinthians 3:18 (NLT)