

Growing In God's Love

Cell Notes for Autumn 2017

Session 1: Who are you becoming?



WELCOME

How do you think you have changed as a person in the last 5 years?

WORSHIP

Put on some quiet worship music - perhaps something with a theme of transformation like "Jesus you are changing me". Take a piece of play dough and mould it into a shape or shapes representing your life and personality now. Think about how you'd like your life and character to develop/ change in the next 5 years and, without speaking, remould your piece of dough to represent that change. One of the group should say a prayer offering your thoughts about change to God.

WORD

Watch the Video of John Mark Comer at New Wine 2017 Session 1

All of us change and are formed as we grow older - the question is what sort of person we are changing into and what is causing our formation. Sometimes we realise we don't like who we are becoming but we can do something about that.

The diagram shows some of the factors which influence how we change. We are going to be looking at the different factors over the next few cell sessions and in the September sermons.

Can you identify how you have changed as a person by any of these factors

- a) the stories you believe
- b) your environment (including culture)
- c) your relationships
- d) your habits



Read **Luke 6.39-40**

Jesus told them this parable,

"Can the blind lead the blind? Will they not both fall into a pit? The apprentice is not above his master, but everyone who is fully trained will be like their master."

In the Israel of Jesus' day, rabbis (masters) called disciples (a good translation would be apprentice) to follow them. The point of this apprenticeship was to become like the rabbi - to do what they did, to teach as they taught, to share in their character.

The same idea is found in **2 Corinthians 3.18**

“All of us have had the veil removed so that we can be mirrors that brightly reflect the glory of the Lord. And as the Spirit of the Lord works within us we are transformed to become more and more like him and reflect his glory even more.”

1. Do you ever despair of becoming more like your rabbi Jesus?
2. John Mark Comer points out that many Christians don't experience this transformation. He says “Transformation is possible but it is not inevitable.” Do you agree?
3. What has helped or hindered you from being “transformed to become more and more like Jesus”?
4. Can you begin to discern how the 4 factors in the diagram might look for someone who was becoming more like Jesus? Share your ideas.



WITNESS/ WORK IT OUT

Share and Pray for

1. Areas where you feel you want to become more like Jesus
2. Other needs for prayer e.g. among your family/friends
3. An outreach activity you are participating in/ planning as a cell