



PART 3: HOW WE CHANGE - THE HOLY SPIRIT

Sermon Notes

Text: John 15:1-11

Intro:

The Holy Spirit works in us to make us more like Jesus

Sometimes it's hard to wait for things to happen, especially us to change

1 Peter 1:6-7

We may be in the midst of a trial, but God uses trials to grow us

John 15:1-11

Jesus is the true vine and growing fruit is a byproduct of being connected to him in relationship

Galatians 5:22-23

We cannot make ourselves more like Jesus. Only the Holy Spirit can do that.

If we grow more like Jesus, we walk by the Spirit and are led by the Spirit. We are more responsive to the desires and promptings of the Holy Spirit in our life and character.

Romans 6:13

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Philippians 2:12-13

Romans 14:17

The process of becoming more like Jesus is usually a done in community

There are no shortcuts to becoming more like Jesus

Conclusion:

Some of the ways to practice this: silence and solitude, sabbath, simplicity, slowing, Bible reading and meditation, prayer, worship, sharing with others, & gathering with others

Bethel Church Penticton - Sunday June 14, 2020 - Pastor Adrian Bonin

Life Group Discussion

Warm up:

1. Have you ever tried to learn something and given up along the way? Or, have you successfully learned to play an instrument even though it was difficult at first?
2. What stood out to you about Sunday's sermon? What was interesting? Confusing? Weird? Thought provoking?

Study & Discussion:

1. As you look back on the last few years of your life, can you see a pattern of definite growth in your Christlikeness? What are some things that you used to enjoy don't hold pleasure for you anymore? What are some things you didn't used to interest you that hold great interest to you now?
2. How would it affect your life if you thought more about how the Holy Spirit is continually at work in you to make you more like Jesus? How have you maintained the balance in your own life between your passive and active role in this process? Have you tended to emphasize one more than the other? What could help you correct this imbalance, if there is one in your life?
3. Read 2 Peter 1:3-9. Peter lists some of the qualities of a godly life. What does it mean to "participate in the divine nature?" Why are these characteristics so important for Christians? Which of these come most naturally to you? Which one is most difficult for you? Why?
4. Are there areas where you have struggled for years to grow in sanctification, but with little or no progress in your life? Has this message helped you to regain hope for progress in those areas? If you are struggling with discouragement over lack of progress in sanctification, talk with your life group leader or meet with a pastor or other mature Christian about this rather than letting it go for a long time.

Application:

1. Spend some unhurried time in prayer this week with Jesus. Ask the Holy Spirit to highlight if there is anything in your life that is distracting you or taking away from your relationship with Jesus. Read Paul's take on the fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22-23 slowly and then spend a few minutes meditating on what it would look like to become more like Jesus in those ways.