

## ARE WE MORPHING?

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Condemnation: The need for God's righteousness (1:18-3:20)

*Moreover, the Spirit will not be merely an ambiguous force coming upon them, but in a genuine way will sustain what they have loved about Jesus thus far. The Spirit-Paraclete (helper) will be "another" Paraclete, another presence who will recreate the person of Jesus within them.*" (NIV Application Commentary).

*He also indwells, illuminates, guides, equips and empowers believers for Christ-like living and service.* (SCEFC Statement of Faith)

**Big Idea: The Holy Spirit transforms us so we become more like Jesus.**

- Fact of life change
- How He brings about Life change
- What keeps us from it

### Fact of life change

- James & John wanted to call down fire and destroy Samaritan village for not receiving them.
- Peter tried to talk Jesus out of the cross.
- Jesus washes their feet and then tells them to follow his example.
- Judas betrays Him
- Peter denies Him
- Hiding because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders.

*"...By any standard of sophisticated culture then and now they would surely have been considered as a ragged collection of souls. One might wonder how Jesus could ever use them. They were impulsive, temperamental, easily offended, and had all the prejudices of their environment. In short, these men selected by the Lord to be His assistants represented an average cross section of society in their day. Not the kind of group one would expect to win the world for Christ."* (Master Plan of Evangelism)

<sup>8</sup>Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, <sup>9</sup>if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, <sup>10</sup>let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of

*Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well. <sup>11</sup> This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. <sup>12</sup> And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." <sup>13</sup> Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. And they recognized that they had been with Jesus. (Act 4:8-13)*

*<sup>19</sup>But Peter and John replied, "Judge for yourselves whether it is right in God's sight to obey you rather than God. <sup>20</sup>For we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard."*

## **How the Holy Spirit brings about Life change**

### **It starts with the truth,**

*<sup>13</sup>When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. <sup>14</sup>He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. <sup>15</sup> All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you. (John 16:13-15)*

- The Holy Spirit will remind us of the truth of God's Word
- The Holy Spirit gives us inner confirmation that we are in fact God's children
- The Holy Spirit helps us understand and apply it to our lives.

*"The Spirit will continue to reveal to them knowledge about God." (NIV Application Commentary)*

Could go on but I think you get the point, Holy Spirit points us to the truth, truth about God, truth about us (who we are as God's children, how we fall short. etc.)

### **Gives us the desire to change.**

### **Gives us the power to change**

## **Why aren't we changing**

- We don't know the truth.
- We try to produce change through our own efforts.
- We don't understand it is a process.
- We aren't doing our part.
- We don't think change is possible.
- We are isolated.

*"You will never experience holy transformation until you are involved in regular, loving, accountability relationships centered on God's Word. (The Miracle of Life Change)*

*State College Evangelical Free Church  
Message Outline*

**Application**

Are you morphing?

Why not?

What are you willing to do about it?