

## Inside-Out Transformation

Christians are being transformed into Christ's likeness (2 Cor. 3:18). God is trying to press His people into a Christ-shaped mold. But this transformation isn't an easy process, partly because the world is trying to press us into its own mold. In order to be transformed into the image of Christ we must resist being conformed to this world. Paul writes, "[D]o not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect" (Rom. 12:2, NASB).

How is this transformation possible? Where does this transformation begin? This transformation is possible only if it begins in the heart. Paul says that we are transformed by the renewal of our minds. This transformation is an inside-out transformation. Too often we focus on changing our actions, instead of our attitudes. That's exactly what many of the Pharisees did. They were overly concerned with externals while their hearts were deteriorating. Since they focused solely on external righteousness to the neglect of their hearts, they became like cups that are clean on the outside but filthy inside. They were like pretty caskets full of dead people's bones. They looked good on the outside, but their hearts were hollow (Matt. 23:25-28).

When Paul wrote to the Christians in Philippi, he realized that their problems with regard to unity were merely symptoms of a deeper problem. Paul addresses the real problem when he offers the following solution to them: "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 2:5, NKJV). Transformation begins in the mind and then extends to our mannerisms. It begins in the heart and then extends to our habits. It begins in our attitudes and then extends to our actions.

Jacob Evans  
Lawrenceburg, TN

### MINISTERS

Thank you for  
your prayers!

Campus Minister  
Brad Tolbert

Secretary  
Joshua Pettigrew

### ELDERS

Mike Beard  
Larry Fisackerly  
Joe Moore

### Deacons

Marty Baker  
Chris Bryant  
Ray Linder  
Jason Meier  
Jeff Newton  
Joshua Pettigrew  
Kerry Rice  
Jeremy Wilson

### Assemblies

SUNDAY  
Bible Study 9:30 AM  
Assembly 10:30 AM  
Assembly 5:00 PM  
Live on Facebook

WEDNESDAY  
Bible Study 6:30 PM



MONTICELLO

CHURCH OF CHRIST

"...speaking the truth in love..." Eph. 4:15

May 8, 2022

## Self-Pride

How easy it is for us to become puffed up and prideful. We all have talents and areas in our lives where we excel. We receive complements, awards, promotions at work, and other recognition for the good job that we may have done. Each of us at one time or another have probably gotten caught up in the kind of thinking that can lead us down a dangerous path. We let pride get to us and we believe that we have somehow accomplished something real and important on our own and through our own abilities.

The prophet Isaiah spoke of God's judgement against the king of Assyria. God condemns "the king of Assyria for his willful pride in his heart and the haughty look in his eyes". (Isaiah 10: 12) Listen to the words with which the king had deceived himself. For he says: "By the strength of my hand I have done this, and by my wisdom, because I have understanding. I removed the boundaries of nations, I plundered their treasures; like a mighty one I subdued their kings. As one reaches into a nest, so my hand reached for the wealth of the nations; as people gather abandoned eggs, so I gathered all the countries; not one flapped a wing, or opened its mouth to chirp." (Isaiah 10:13) Did you notice the focus of his statements? He uses the words "I" and "My" like he accomplished all of this on his own. Here is a man that was full of self-pride.

God was the one who enabled and used the king of Assyria to accomplish His goals. "Does the ax raise itself above the person who swings it, or the saw boast against the one who uses it? As if a rod were to wield the person who lifts it up, or a club brandish the one who is not wood!" (Isaiah 1:15) Even a pagan king was simply a tool used by God to carry out His plan. As a Christian our lives are no longer our own and we should never forget that all we do is for the glory of God. (1 Corinthians 10:31)

The book of Proverbs gives us many warnings about the danger of pride. "The LORD detests all the proud of heart. ... Be sure of this: They will not go unpunished. Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall." (Proverbs 16:5, 18)

The new testament is also full of warnings about the danger of thinking more of ourselves than we should. "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble." (James 4:6) The danger of pride leads to us worshiping ourselves rather than God. We must understand that all we are and all we have comes from God.

~Brad Tolbert

## Memory Verse

"Do everything without grumbling or arguing."  
Philippians 2:14 (NIV)

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## HEART—TO—HEART

### Happy Mother's Day!

**Jason Meier** is doing a lot of traveling lately related to his work.

**James Perry** has been dealing with seizures. They are trying to get his medicine right to deal with them.

**Levi Davis** is not doing well.

**Joan Head (Dermott)** passed away last Saturday.

**Grady Wilson** passed away. Funeral services were on May 4th in **Rison**.

Please remember **Candice Carter**, **Rick Naron**, and **Jay Light** as they continue treatments.

There will be a get together at the **Timberlodge Lanes bowling alley** on **Saturday, May 14** from **4-6PM**. All youth (teens and under) are invited to attend.

On **Sunday evening, May 15th**, we will celebrate our **2021 graduates**. There will be dinner following worship. The meal will be provided. Members are asked to bring desserts. For more details, please see **Chris or Leah Bryant**.

Everyone is invited to a going away party for **Bonnie and Ryan Halbert** on **May 22** at **Miracle League Park** after Sunday night service with pizza, desserts, and fun.

## TODAY'S EVENTS

-Worship livestreamed at 10:30

-Singing at 5:00 followed by the  
Birthday/Anniversary Fellowship

## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

### Members:

Linda Bates...Tony & Judy Beard...Terry Boykin...  
Roger & Margaret Harris... Jennifer Knight... Ray  
Leonard... Joe and Peggy Moore...LaVerne Pot-  
ter...Eddy & Suzette Russell.. Jerry Smith... Rita  
Stiles... Mandy Tolbert... Carolyn Wilson...Donnie  
& Janice Wright

### Shut-ins:

Jean Enlow...Betty McGuire...Bob & Pat Turner...  
Marie Wooten

### Serving in the Military:

Mollie Aldridge...Corey Bryant...Bradyn Curtis..  
Noah Draper... David Foret... Taylor Koonce...  
Tucker Koonce...Matthew May... Justin Mills...  
Neil Rampy ... Christian Stepanovich... Mathew  
Tannehill...

## SPECIAL PRAYER LIST

Chris Beard... Rusty Blanks... Naomi Bur-  
row...Candice Carter... the church in Ukraine...  
Eliane Clay... Alli Cooper...Ricky Epps... Tommy  
Haynes... family of Joan Head... Bertha Henry...  
family of Retta Higgins... Kenny Hudgens... Deane  
Johnson... Gary Light... Jay Light... Jim Looney...  
Kathryn McDonough... Rick Naron... Brent New-  
ton... Mason Ingram... James Perry... Loyce Ray..  
Christy Rice... family of Debbie Rogers... Turner  
Roberts... Winnie Roberts... Leah Rye... Janice  
Sawyer... Sue Thomas...Sissy Tucker...family of  
Clint Waldrup... James Walton... Mark Wyers...  
Daisy and Lily Wilkerson... family of William  
Woods... Sue Woodard...

## Birthdays & Anniversaries



May	9	Brian & Mindy Erwin
	16	Emma Miller
	17	Brad & Mandy Tolbert
	18	Suzette Russell
	19	Chris & Leah Bryant
	21	Braydn Curtis
	22	Walter Stiles
	24	Andrew Miller
	27	Cheryl Shirey
	30	Karli Walker

### Daily Bible Reading Schedule

8	2 Chron. 25-27
9	2 Chron. 28-30
10	2 Chron. 31-33
11	2 Chron. 34-36
12	Ezra 1-4
13	Ezra 5-7
14	Ezra 8-10



### Heart-To-Heart cont'd...

There will be a box for cards. Please give any cards to **Sandra Baker**. If you would like to give toward a money tree, see **Sandra** or **Lindsey Baker**. If you would like to contribute toward pizza, see **Stacy Usry**. Bring your own chairs and drinks. Please sign the **sign-up sheet** in the foyer if you plan on coming, so we will know how many pizzas to order!

If you need to reserve the Fellowship Hall, please notify **Joshua Pettigrew**.

The **Fellowship Hall** will be used as a **polling place** for the upcoming election on **May 24th**. For this use, the Fellowship Hall is reserved **May 23rd-25th**.

**Ladies**, we are needing volunteers to be in charge of **food** in the months of **June** and **July**. There is a sign-up sheet in the foyer. There will be a **Love Ministry** meeting in **July** for all ladies to attend.

We have started to pass communion plates again. For those still wishing to use the individual sets, they are still available.

All **Ladies** are invited to the **Wednesday Morning Ladies Bible Class** every Wednesday morning at 10:00 in room 134 at the building.

**Best Choice** labels are still being collected. Place the **UPC labels** in the box in room 134. The proceeds go to the **Paragould Children's Home**.

### Attendance

Bible Class .....81  
Sunday AM Worship...102  
Sunday PM Worship.....59  
Wed. Evening .....67  
Contribution .....\$4,698.11

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### MISSIONS

Truth for Today  
In Search of the  
Lord's Way  
Ghana Radio

### NURSERY

### Communion Preparation

May 8 Fran Calvert  
May 15 Fran Calvert  
May 22 Jacque Davidson  
May 29 Jacque Davidson

### Ladies May Duties

**Cards:** Barbara Dyson  
**Food:** Sandra Baker  
Margaret Harris