

BE A BRINGER

“40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus....” John 1:40-42a

A bringer makes one touch each week by investing and inviting someone to Christ and church.

Name three people you will pray for their salvation this week:

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

“Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;....” I Samuel 12:23a



The Daily Joy Workout

Paul explains that the Christian life is not a series of ups and downs. It is a process of ins and outs. God works in us while we work out. It is a process where God works in, we work out, teachers work with, and believers work together.

When we give our life to Christ, our eternal destiny is altered, there is a radical reorientation of priorities, there is a new life purpose, and there is the indwelling Holy Spirit. Rather than instant liberation from every bad habit or character flaw we've ever possessed, however, what takes place is more like the landing of an army on a beach and the routing out of the enemy as the army makes its way inland. At salvation God establishes a beachhead. Total occupation will come in time as the other parts of the formula are implemented.

As God begins his work in us, he uses three tools in the process.

1. God uses the Bible to bring about life change

Through his Word he teaches us how to live. If you are serious about changing your life, you're going to have to live according to the Bible. You will need to read it, study it, memorize it, meditate on it, and apply it.

2. God uses the Holy Spirit to change us

The Holy Spirit provides the power, the conviction, and the direction for life change. The Holy Spirit acts like an internal warning system when we begin to make wrong steps and like an applauding crowd when we take the right steps toward becoming like Jesus.

God's number one purpose in life is to make us like Jesus Christ. The Spirit of God uses the Word of God to make the child of God more like the Son of God.

3. God uses circumstances to change us

The circumstances are the problems, pressures, heartaches, difficulties, and stress of life. Suffering gets our attention. C. S. Lewis said that God whispers to us in our pleasure, but shouts to us in our pain. The painful circumstances - whether we bring them on ourselves, or other people cause them, or the Devil incites them - are used by God to help us grow in likeness to his son.

KEY VERSE

Philippians 2:13 (NKJV)

“for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.”

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: Philippians 2:12-18; Ephesians 2:8-10; Philippians 1:6

Live Out Your Salvation

1. List some ways you have seen spiritual growth in your life since salvation.
2. When we work out physically, we put in work and as a result our bodies grow and change. What can you do to grow spiritually? What does God do to grow you spiritually?

Tuesday: Philippians 2:13; Psalm 138:8; Romans 8:28

Accept God's Plan

3. What do you think God's purpose for your life is? What are some ways that God is forming you for this purpose?
4. Do you find it easy or difficult to accept God's plan for your life? Why?

Wednesday: Philippians 2:14-15; Ephesians 4:29; II Cor. 3:2-3

Present A Positive Testimony

5. What are some ways you have been a light in the world so far this week?
6. Why is it important to present a positive testimony both by what you say and what you do?

Thursday: Philippians 2:16; Psalm 119:33-34; Hebrews 4:12

Engage The Bible Everyday

7. Do you have a plan to study the Bible daily? If so, what is it?
8. How does reading the Bible help you to grow as a Christian?
9. How does reading the Bible help you to present a positive testimony?

Friday: Philippians 2:17-18; I Peter 2:4-5; Hebrews 13:16

Serve God By Serving Others

10. Why do you think Paul was able to rejoice even though he viewed his life as being poured out as a drink offering?
11. Describe a time when serving others caused you to have joy.
12. Last week we studied the example of Jesus in Philippians 2:5-11. How can we follow His example and be a better servant?