

Volume 2, Day 26: Transformation Takes A Lifetime

The more loved you are, the more you have a sense of God's affection for you. The greater your trust is in His ability to take care of you, the less you'll find an enticement to sin and the less pleasure that holds for us. That's the transformation that God wants. That's why Paul says in Romans, the mindset on the flesh is death. He's not just talking about the mind that indulges the flesh. He's also talking about the mind that seeks to abstain from the flesh because it's still a mindset on the flesh. So if you're going to wake up today and try to get sin out of you and try to be better for God, and measure how deep your relationship is based on how good you've been, oh, you're going to have to find another journey. This isn't going to work for you.

Our transformation is a lifetime journey of leaning more deeply into Him and finding myself increasingly free from the things that have bound up my life. God doesn't hate you because of your sin. God doesn't reject you because of your sin. What God calls sin is not the fun stuff He doesn't want us to have. Sin is the things that destroy us and our relationships with people around us. So even though they're forgiven at the cross, the natural consequences of sin in our lives still hurt us and the people closest to us. So God's not unconcerned about sin. You can't say, "Oh, He just loves me now. So who cares? I'll live whatever way I want." No inside a growing relationship with Him I want to be transformed. I want to be like He is in the world. And the only hope I have of becoming that is by living inside a relationship of growing affection for Him, which leads to growing trust in who He is, which means I don't have to grab for myself what God's not giving me.

ENGAGING God -- Bob Clarkson