

I. "Overview of Transformation"

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a. Contact Dan by writing him at discipleheart@protonmail.

b. Visit Discipleheart.com to find more than 700 pages of additional resources on revival, prayer, overcoming and other spiritual topics.

II. This handout was compiled by Dan Augsburger, and was referred to in the six video sessions reviewing the process of transformation with Tim Rumsey of PathwaytoParadise Ministries.

A. Find a longer handout covering the same information at discipleheart.com on the downloadable study guide page found near the top of the Home Page: <https://www.discipleheart.com/study-guides-booklets--other-downloadable-resources#heading-19207>

## The Transformation Overview

III. **A Godly Life is Promised!**

A. **Ephesians 1:4** "...He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love...."

**Colossians 4:12** "...that you may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God."

**1 Peter 1:15** "As He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct...."

"Before the believer is held out the wonderful possibility of being like Christ, obedient to all the principles of the law.

**But of himself man is utterly unable to reach this condition.**

The holiness that God's word declares he must have before he can be saved is the result of the working of divine grace as he bows in submission to the discipline and restraining influences of the Spirit of truth.

The part of the Christian is to persevere in overcoming every fault.

Constantly he is to pray to the Saviour to heal the disorders of his sin-sick soul. He has not the wisdom or the strength to overcome; these belong to the Lord, and

He bestows them on those who in humiliation and contrition seek Him for help." Acts of the Apostles, 532.1

B. "We believe without a doubt that Christ is soon coming. This is not a fable to us; it is a reality. When He comes He is not to cleanse us of our sins, to remove from us the defects in our characters, or to cure us of the infirmities of our tempers and dispositions. If wrought for us at all, this work will all be accomplished before that time. Counsels to the Church, p. 214.4

- 25 IV. **Our Condition is Hopeless! We are Totally Unable to Achieve This Holy**  
26 **Life... on Our Own!**
- 27 A. Jeremiah 17:9 “The heart is deceitful above all things, and **desperately wicked**;  
28 who can know it?”
- 29 Jeremiah 13:23 “**Can the Ethiopian change his skin or the leopard its spots?**  
30 **Then may you also do good who are accustomed to do evil.**”
- 31 Ephesians 2:1 “And you He made alive, who were **dead in trespasses and**  
32 **sins....**”
- 33 John 8:34 “**Whoever commits sin is a slave of sin.**”
- 34 “**Our condition is helpless and hopeless....**” Signs of the Times, January 4, 1883.  
35 par. 12
- 36 B. “**Every soul that refuses to give himself to God is under the control of another**  
37 **power. He is not his own. He may talk of freedom, but he is in the most abject**  
38 **slavery.** He is not allowed to see the beauty of truth, for **his mind is under the**  
39 **control of Satan.**” Desire of Ages, p. 466.3
- 40 C. **God’s Remedy is Two -Fold:**
- 41 1. We **struggle with both the penalty of sin and the power of sin. God accordingly**  
42 **has two-fold plan whereby we are transformed.**
- 43 V. **Justification: Dealing with the Penalty of sin.**
- 44 A. **We Must Choose A Better Way**
- 45 1. Philippians 2:13 “Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God  
46 who works in you **both to will and to do** for His good pleasure.”
- 47 2. “**Pure religion has to do with the will. The will is the governing power in the**  
48 **nature of man. If the will is set right, all the rest of the man will come under its**  
49 **sway.** The will is not the taste or the inclination, but **it is the choice, the deciding**  
50 **power; the kingly power which works in the children of men unto obedience to**  
51 **God or to disobedience.**” Testimonies, vol. 5, 513.1
- 52 B. **We Must Take Ownership For the Mistakes We Have Made—Confess, and Turn**  
53 **From Sin.**
- 54 1. 1 John 1:9 “**If we confess** our sins, He is **faithful and just to forgive us our sins and**  
55 **to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**”
- 56 2. Acts 17:30 “Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but **now commands all**  
57 **men everywhere to repent....**”
- 58 3. “**Those who have not humbled their souls before God in acknowledging their**  
59 **guilt, have not yet fulfilled the first condition of acceptance.**” Steps to Christ, pp.  
60 37.4
- 61 4. **We can no more repent without the Spirit of Christ to awaken the conscience than**  
62 **we can be pardoned without Christ.**” Steps to Christ, p. 26.2
- 63 “**Repentance includes sorrow for sin and a turning away from it.** We shall not  
64 renounce sin unless we see its sinfulness; until we turn away from it in heart, there will  
65 be no real change in the life.” Steps to Christ, p. 23.2
- 66 C. **We Must Make An Unreserved Surrender.**

- 67 1. Romans 12:1 “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that **you**  
68 **present your bodies a living sacrifice**, holy, acceptable to God, which is your  
69 reasonable service.”
- 70 2. **“There are some who seem to be always seeking for the heavenly pearl. But they**  
71 **do not make an entire surrender of their wrong habits. They do not die to self that**  
72 **Christ may live in them.** Therefore they do not find the precious pearl. They have not  
73 overcome unholy ambition and their love for worldly attractions. **They do not take up**  
74 **the cross and follow Christ in the path of self-denial and sacrifice. Almost**  
75 **Christians, yet not fully Christians, they seem near the kingdom of heaven,** but  
76 they cannot enter there. **Almost but not wholly saved, means to be not almost but**  
77 **wholly lost.”** Christ’s Object Lessons, p. 118.1
- 78 D. **We Must Formalize And Publicize Our Surrender In Baptism**  
79 **Receive The Pledged Power Of The Godhead**
- 80 1. Romans 6:4 (NKJV) “Therefore **we were buried with Him through baptism into**  
81 **death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father,**  
82 **even so we also should walk in newness of life.”**
- 83 2. **Christ made baptism the entrance to His spiritual kingdom. He made this a**  
84 **positive condition with which all must comply who wish to be acknowledged as**  
85 **under the authority of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.** Those who receive  
86 the ordinance of baptism thereby make a **public declaration that they have**  
87 **renounced the world and have become members of the royal family, children of**  
88 the heavenly King. Manuscript 27a, 1900.6 ...  
89 **The Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, powers infinite and omniscient, receive**  
90 **those who truly enter into covenant relation with God. They are present at every**  
91 **baptism, to receive the candidates** who have renounced the world and have received  
92 Christ into the soul temple. These candidates have entered into the family of God, and  
93 their names are inscribed in the Lamb’s book of life. Manuscript 27a, 1900.10
- 94 3. Sometimes Rebaptism is necessary.
- 95 E. **We Must RECEIVE Pardon AND**  
96 **Christ’s Righteousness**
- 97 1. Romans 5:19 “For as by one man’s disobedience many were made sinners, so also by  
98 one Man’s obedience many will be made righteous.”
- 99 2. “The **thought that the righteousness of Christ is imputed to us,** not because of any  
100 merit on our part, but as a free gift from God, **is a precious thought.** The enemy of  
101 God and man is **not willing that this truth should be clearly presented; for he**  
102 **knows that if the people receive it fully, his power will be broken.”** Review and  
103 Herald, December 24, 1908 par. 2
- 104 3. JUSTIFICATION: This is what is sometimes termed as justification. Justification is  
105 God’s **declarative act,** whereby the **merit of righteousness of Christ is imputed, or**  
106 **credited to us.** It is a **work of a moment and it is totally based on what Christ did**  
107 for us when he died on the cross. Sometimes also referred to as **our title to heaven.**
- 108 VI. **Transformation or Sanctification: Dealing With The Power Of Sin!**
- 109 A. **We are Transformed... In Receiving GOD’S Word**
- 110 1. Psalms 119:11 “**Your word have I hid in my heart** that I might not sin against You.”  
111 John 17:17 “**Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.”**
- 112 B. **Through SECRET Prayer**

- 113 1. Matthew 6:6 “But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut  
114 your door, **pray to your Father who is in the secret place**; and your Father who sees  
115 in secret will reward you openly.”  
116 2. “**You will receive more strength by spending one hour each day in meditation,**  
117 **and mourning over your failings and heart-corruptions, and pleading for God’s**  
118 **pardoning love, and the assurance of sins forgiven, than you would by spending**  
119 **many hours and days in studying the most able authors.**” Review and Herald,  
120 January 19, 1864 par. 19

121 C. **In Accepting God’s SPECIAL**

122 **Messages For Our Day**

- 123 1. 2 Chronicles 20:20 “Believe in the LORD your God, and you shall be established;  
124 **believe His prophets, and you shall prosper.**”  
125 2. “I have been shown that **unbelief in the testimonies of warning, encouragement,**  
126 **and reproof is shutting away the light from God’s people. Unbelief is closing their**  
127 **eyes so that they are ignorant of their true condition.** They think the testimony of  
128 the Spirit of God in reproof is uncalled for or that it does not mean them. Such are in  
129 the greatest need of the grace of God and spiritual discernment, that they may discover  
130 their deficiency in spiritual knowledge.” Testimony Treasures, vol. 2, p. 289.1

131 D. **Agreeing to Dying to Self**

- 132 1. Psalms 51:17 “The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken and a contrite  
133 heart—these, O God, You will not despise.”  
134 2. Luke 9:23 “Then He said to them all, ‘If **anyone desires to come after Me, let him**  
135 **deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.** ’”  
136 1 Corinthians 15:31 “I die daily.”  
137 3. Galatians 2:20 (NKJV) 20 **I have been crucified with Christ.**”  
138 4. “Jesus bade His followers take up the cross and bear it after Him. **To the disciples His**  
139 **words, though dimly comprehended, pointed to their submission to the most**  
140 **bitter humiliation,—submission even unto death for the sake of Christ. No more**  
141 **complete self-surrender could the Saviour’s words have pictured.**” Desire of Ages,  
142 p. 416.3  
143 5. “The new birth is a rare experience in this age of the world. This is the reason why  
144 there are so many perplexities in the churches. **Many, so many, who assume the**  
145 **name of Christ are unsanctified and unholy. They have been baptized, but they**  
146 **were buried alive.** Self did not die, and therefore they did not rise to newness of life in  
147 Christ.” SDA Bible Commentary, Vol. 6, p. 1075.7

148 E. **In Being EMPTIED OF The Corruptions Brought By Self**

- 149 1. Romans 13:14 “But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and **make no provision for the**  
150 **flesh, to fulfill its lusts.**”  
151 2 Corinthians 7:1 “Therefore, having these promises, beloved, **let us cleanse ourselves**  
152 **from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.**”  
153 2. “**We cannot retain self and yet be filled with the fullness of God. We must be**  
154 **emptied of self.** If heaven is gained by us at last, it will be only through the  
155 renunciation of self, and the receiving of the mind of Christ. Pride and self-sufficiency  
156 must be crucified, and the vacuum supplied with the Spirit and power of God. **Are we**  
157 **willing to pay the price required of us for eternal life? Are we ready to sit down**  
158 **and count the cost, and conclude that heaven is worth the sacrifice of dying to self,**

159 **of having our will brought into perfect conformity with the will of God? Until we**  
160 **are willing, the transforming grace of God will not be manifested upon us.** When  
161 we present our emptied nature to God, he will by his Holy Spirit supply the vacuum  
162 made by the renunciation of self, and give us of his fullness.” Signs of the Times,  
163 November 21, 1892, par. 4  
164 “No outward observances can take the place of simple faith and entire renunciation of  
165 self. **But no man can empty himself of self. We can only consent for Christ to**  
166 **accomplish the work.** Then the language of the soul will be, Lord, take my heart; for I  
167 cannot give it. It is Thy property. Keep it pure, for I cannot keep it for Thee. Save me  
168 in spite of myself, my weak, unchristlike self. Mold me, fashion me, raise me into a  
169 pure and holy atmosphere, where the rich current of Thy love can flow through my  
170 soul.” Christ’s Object Lessons, p. 159.3

#### 171 F. In Accepting NECESSARY

##### 172 Refining Trials

- 173 1. John 15:2 “Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every  
174 **branch that bears fruit He prunes**, that it may bear more fruit.”
- 175 2. James 1:2-4 “My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing  
176 that the **testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect**  
177 **work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.**”
- 178 3. “**The very trials that test our faith** most severely, and make it seem that God has  
179 forsaken us, **are designed to lead us nearer to Christ, that we may lay all our**  
180 **burdens at his feet, and receive the peace he will give us in exchange. . . . When**  
181 **you surrender yourself entirely to God, when you fall all broken upon Jesus, you**  
182 **will be rewarded by a victory, the joy of which you have never yet realized.**”  
183 Gospel Workers 1992, p. 372.3

#### 184 G. In Receiving NEW Life

##### 185 And Power “IN Christ”

- 186 1. Galatians 2:20 “I have been crucified with Christ; **it is no longer I who live, but**  
187 **Christ lives in me;** and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son  
188 of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.”
- 189 2Corinthians 5:17 “Therefore, **if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things**  
190 **have passed away; behold, all things have become new.**”
- 191 2. “The Lord Jesus loves His people, and when they put their trust in Him, depending  
192 wholly upon Him, He strengthens them. **He will live through them, giving them the**  
193 **inspiration of His sanctifying Spirit, imparting to the soul a vital transfusion of**  
194 **Himself.** He acts through their faculties and **causes them to choose His will and to**  
195 **act out His character.**” That I May Know Him, p. 78.4

#### 196 H. COOPERATING With

##### 197 The Holy Spirit

- 198 1. Ephesians 5:18 “And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled  
199 with the Spirit.”  
200 “The only power that can quicken the heart into activity is the power which will give  
201 life to the dead—the Holy Spirit of God. . . . Hang your helpless soul upon your  
202 Mediator. In and through Him, and Him alone, you can come to God. . . .” Manuscript  
203 Releases, vol. 2, p. 24.4

#### 204 I. In GRASPING The Divine Nature

- 205 1. 2 Peter 1:4 “by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises,  
 206 **that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature**, having escaped the  
 207 corruption that is in the world through lust.”
- 208 2. “In Christ it is our privilege to come to God and to lay hold of Him with living faith,  
 209 and to say, “I believe in myself I can do nothing, but **through the provision thou hast**  
 210 **made, I believe that humanity can grasp divinity. I grasp it in the name of Jesus**  
 211 **Christ of Nazareth.**” Now that is the very work many neglect to do. What is at stake?  
 212 Your souls.” Manuscript 115, 1909.35
- 213 J. **In RECEIVING Victory**
- 214 1. 1 Corinthians 5: 57 “But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord  
 215 Jesus Christ.”
- 216 K. **In Exercising LIVING Faith**
- 217 1. Romans 10:17 “So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”
- 218 2. “**We can overcome. Yes; fully, entirely.** Jesus died to make a way of escape for us,  
 219 that **we might overcome every fault, resist every temptation, and sit down at last**  
 220 **with Him in His throne.** It is our privilege to have faith and salvation. The **power of**  
 221 **God has not decreased. It would be just as freely bestowed now as formerly; but**  
 222 **the church have lost their faith to claim, their energy to wrestle,** as did Jacob,  
 223 crying, ‘I will not let thee go, except thou bless me’ (Genesis 32:26).” Ye Shall  
 224 Receive Power, p. 367.2
- 225 L. **We Must Not CONSULT Our Feelings**
- 226 1. Php 4:4 “**Rejoice in the Lord always.** Again I will say, rejoice!”
- 227 2. “**Satan may try to bind you to his car [chariot] as a helpless soul. But shout in**  
 228 **victory that Christ has made you a free man. Do not dishonor God by one**  
 229 **expression of inefficiency and inability to overcome fully, entirely, and gloriously**  
 230 **through Jesus Christ,** who has died to redeem you, and make you a free man.  
 231 Conquer, yes, conquer. **Put your will every moment on the side of God’s will.**  
 232 **Think hopefully and courageously. In faith cry out against Satan,** and looking unto  
 233 Jesus who is the author and finisher of your faith, say, ‘**Jesus, my Redeemer, I am**  
 234 **weak. I cannot do anything without Thy special help. I hang my helpless soul on**  
 235 **Thee.**’ Then let your imagination dwell on the thought that you are in the  
 236 presence of Jesus, walking with God, your life hid with Christ in God.... **He has**  
 237 **conquered Satan in my behalf, and I will not be conquered by the devil once.** I will  
 238 not disgrace my Lord and Leader; but I will triumph in His holy name, and come off  
 239 more than conqueror.” Our High Calling, p. 41.3
- 240 M. **We Must ADOPT Christ’s Lifestyle Of Obedience And Service**
- 241 1. Matthew 11:28-30 “Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will  
 242 give you rest. **Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly**  
 243 **in heart:** and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is  
 244 light.”
- 245 2. Psalms 37:11 “But the **meek shall inherit the earth, and shall delight themselves in**  
 246 **the abundance of peace.**”
- 247 3. “If you will seek the Lord and be converted every day; if you will of your own spiritual  
 248 choice be free and joyous in God; **if with gladsome consent of heart to His gracious**  
 249 **call you come wearing the yoke of Christ,—the yoke of obedience and service,—**  
 250 **all your murmurings will be stilled, all your difficulties will be removed,** all the

- 251 perplexing problems that now confront you will be solved." Mount of Blessings, p.  
252 101.3
- 253 4. Jesus came to our world, and **chose the lowliest life, took the humblest position,**  
254 **leaving us an example that we should follow in his steps.** The Majesty of heaven  
255 was meek and lowly in heart, and he **expects all his followers to catch his spirit of**  
256 **meekness and lowliness...**" Signs of the Times, August 22, 1895, par. 1
- 257 5. The **meekness and lowliness of Christ is the Christian's power.** It is indeed more  
258 precious than all things which genius can create or wealth can buy. – {CH 403.1}
- 259 6. In our separation from God, in our pride and darkness, we are constantly seeking to  
260 elevate ourselves, and **we forget that lowliness of mind is power.** Our Saviour's  
261 power was not in a strong array of sharp words that would pierce through the very  
262 soul; **it was His gentleness and His plain, unassuming manners that made Him a**  
263 **conqueror of hearts.** Pride and self-importance, when compared with lowliness and  
264 humility, are indeed weakness. – {3T 477.1}
- 265 7. Meekness is a precious grace, **willing to suffer silently, willing to endure trials.**  
266 **Meekness is patient and labors to be happy under all circumstances.** Meekness is  
267 always thankful and makes its own songs of happiness, making melody in the heart to  
268 God. Meekness will suffer disappointment and wrong, and will not retaliate. {3T  
269 335.1}
- 270 8. Meekness is not a species of cowardice. It is the spirit which Christ manifested when  
271 suffering injury, when enduring insult and abuse. **To be meek is not to surrender our**  
272 **rights; but it is the preservation of self-control under provocation....** Meekness will  
273 not allow passion to take the lines. – {ST August 22, 1895 Par. 3}
- 274 N. **We Must Remain Faithful Through A Daily Devotional Experience, and Walking**  
275 **In Christ's Presence Through The Day**  
276  
277