

Moving from Information to Transformation
LJCC Women's Retreat – March 2007
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I. 3 Temptations not to transform (Friday night)

1. Temptation to take control
 - “I have enough information to do it myself”
 - Key: transformation is a process!
2. Temptation to Fake it
 - Tempted to be other than who God called you to be
 - Jesus was clear on who he was and what God called him to do
3. Temptation to bow down to idols
 - Achievement, performance, homes, kids, etc.
 - Jesus + Something = Nothing
 - “Ideas inform us, but love transforms us”

II. Change from the inside out (Saturday morning)

Living by the rules feels safe, “Being” is more risky

3 Questions to ask ourselves about transformation:

1. Where am I rigid in my spiritual life – where might I be stuck?
 - Are you open to God? Wanting to connect with him?
2. Do I want to be transformed? Be honest!
 - Must be ready to have your world shaken - transformation takes energy
 - It also takes lots of prayer – ask for mercy
3. We work best in Community
 - Be available to each other – enter each other's stories

III. Abiding in Christ (Saturday night)

“Can not be fruitful apart from me”

1. We are already in the process of abiding in Christ if we have said “yes” to salvation.
 - God is always abiding in us – “you are here and I am here – stop and abide in that”
2. Let your abiding with Christ live outside the box
 - Everyone has a formula for abiding in Jesus – know how you are wired and let that guide you
3. Allow yourselves to take in the presence of God in everything you do.
 - God wants to be in all the spaces of your life, the good, bad and the messy
 - We want to be fixed, but fixed doesn’t transform – ask for courage, perspective and grounding

IV. Transformation happens in all seasons (Sunday morning)

Transformation happens in all seasons of our lives.

1. We are called to be open
 - How are we taking our transformation to the outside world?
 - Most powerful when shared – becomes profound
 - Acts 16:11 – story of Lydia
 - Be open to being transparent
2. Set your priorities to how you are wired and who you are
 - What are your priorities?
 - Satan tried to change Jesus mission
 - Who am I called to “Be” versus “Do”?
3. Use the gifts God has given you to transform the world
 - God has given everyone at least one thing that is easy for you – are you using it for Jesus?
 - How do I respond to my circumstances – will I use it to be transformed

“Ideas Inform – Love Transforms”