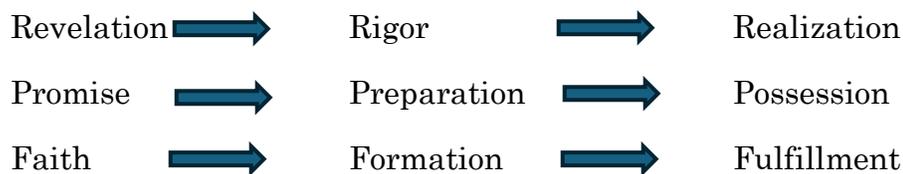


WALKING IN FORMATION UNTO TRANSFORMATION

“Be strong and courageous and get to work. Do not be frightened by the size of the task, for the Lord my God is with you...He will not forsake you...**1 Chronicles 28:20**
Living Bible

- We have seen recently that life is governed by times and seasons, and the path of life is replete with detours. Each cycle or season of Kingdom Life is valuable and there is a price to be paid and blessing to be realized in every phase of this process.

For Exp:



- In our culture, we are overwhelmed by the flood of information that surrounds us and drowning from the lack of ‘formation’ in our lives, families, institutions and churches.
- How does ‘formation’ take place? How can we rise up in strength and courage, unafraid of the size of the tasks we face and usher in the purposes of God for this season of our life?

How Formation and Transformation Take Place

- There is a ‘learning process’

⁴¹ Now the Jews murmured *and* found fault with *and* grumbled about Jesus because He said, I am [Myself] the Bread that came down from heaven. ⁴² They kept asking, Is not this Jesus, the Son of Joseph, Whose father and mother we know? How then can He say, I have come down from heaven? ⁴³ So Jesus answered them, Stop grumbling *and* saying things against Me to one another. ⁴⁴ No one is able to come to Me unless the Father Who sent Me attracts *and* draws him *and* gives him the desire to come to Me, and [then] I will raise him up [from the dead] at the last day. ⁴⁵ It is written in [the book of] the Prophets, And they shall all be taught of God [have Him in person for their Teacher]. Everyone who has listened to and learned from the Father comes to Me— ⁴⁶ Which does not imply that anyone has seen the Father [not that anyone has ever seen Him] except He [Who was with the Father] Who comes from God; He [alone] has seen the Father. ⁴⁷ I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, he who believes *in Me* [who adheres to, trusts in, relies on, and has faith in Me] has (now possesses) eternal life. ⁴⁸ I am the Bread of Life [that gives life—the Living Bread]. ⁴⁹ Your forefathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and [yet] they died.

⁵⁰ [But] this is the Bread that comes down from heaven, so that [any]one may eat of it and never die. **John 6:41-50 AMPC**

- Grumblers don't respond well to the Spirits' leading and they have not learned much. (v41-45)
 - **V44** – Drawing power...hearing + learning + pursuing = coming to Him.
- This learning process gives us our 'God-word' learnings and leanings.
- This learning involves developing an eternal perspective. (v51)
 - This learning process brings about a turning process.

- There is a turning process.

¹⁴ And when we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew dialect, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.' ¹⁵ And I said, 'Who are You, Lord?' And the Lord said, 'I am Jesus whom you are persecuting. ¹⁶ But get up and stand on your feet; for this purpose I have appeared to you, to appoint you a minister and a witness not only to the things which you have seen, but also to the things in which I will appear to you; ¹⁷ rescuing you from the *Jewish* people and from the Gentiles, to whom I am sending you, ¹⁸ to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me. **Acts 26:14-18 NASB**

¹³ For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. **Colossians 1:13-14 NASB**

- We turn from darkness to light and from Satan's dominion to Jesus' Lordship.
- We follow our God-word leanings and experience the benefits of open eyes and kingdom transfer.

³ Jesus answered and said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." ⁴ Nicodemus *said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? He cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born, can he?" ⁵ Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. ⁶ That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. **John 3:3-6 NASB**

- We experience the turning of thought patterns and desires as transfer takes place and transformation is initiated. This turning process ignites a burning process.

Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins. **1 Peter 4:8 NASB**

- There is a burning process...the fire of God's love aflame in us.
 - Fervent love...from God, for God, and for each other.
 - Fervent, fiery, intense, boiling, percolating love.
 - The constraining compassion of God.
 - For the love of God overmasters us. (*Weymouth*)
 - The love of God grips, governs, impels, absorbs, and compels us.
 - This burning process produces a yearning process.

The Spirit and the bride say, "Come." And let the one who hears say, "Come."
 And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who wishes take the water of life
 without cost. **Revelation 22:17 NASB**

- There is a yearning process in the 'formation' of a maturing heart.
 - There is a passion that longs for the presence of the Lord.
 - A passionate desire
 - A spiritual thirst
 - An inner longing

"The Holy Spirit and the Bride [the Church, the true Christians] say come! And let
 him who is listening say come! And let everyone who is thirsty [who is painfully
 conscious of his need of those things by which the soul is refreshed] and whoever
 desires to do it let him come and take...the water of life without cost..." **Revelations
 22:17 Amplified**

- Oh that I may know Him!
- Walking in 'formation' keeps you from crumbling and grumbling beneath the
 'weight' of the 'wait.'
- The greater the promise, the greater the fulfillment and the deeper the
 'formation.'

Where are you in the formation process?
JOHN'S JOURNAL ENTRY FROM 12/1/19

The process of transformation has a 'history'...it is comprised of both sudden and
 gradual encounters with revelation from My Word and expressions of My character
 and nature. As you come to know Me through your 'word' encounters and you do all
 things with My Spirit, you will make shifts in your thought patterns and
 choices...character will be formed, and outcomes will change. Revelation becomes
 your most prized way of 'knowing and growing' and the most natural way for you to
 approach life issues. Transformation is both daily and dramatic. Your daily abiding
 in Me is the highway of life and it bridges those powerful revelatory encounters that
 happen strategically, to propel your maturity and accomplish your destiny. The
 renewing of your mind is My way of empowering you to know My ways so you can
 experience the fullness of My purpose and pleasure. Transformation is the process
 of the deep and lasting integration and assimilation of the character of Jesus.

“Fire transforms all things it touches into its own nature. The wood does not change the fire into itself, but the fire changes the wood into itself. In the same way, we are transformed into God” – *Meister Eckhart*

- Transformation involves our full surrender to the Lord and our interaction and union with the Holy Spirit as He reveals the Word of God to us and we apply it to our thoughts, our choices, and feelings.
- How can we be transformed?
 - By encounter with the Spirit of God
 - **Matthew 17:2**
 - **Mark 9:2**
 - **Colossians 1:26-29**
 - **Colossians 3:9-11**
 - By a sell-out to Jesus and our cooperating with Him in the renewing of our mind.
 - **Romans 12:1-2**
 - **1 Peter 1:13-14**
 - **Ephesians 4:20-24**
 - **Titus 3:5**
 - **Galatians 4:20-24**
 - **2 Corinthians 5:17**
 - **1 Thessalonians 2:13**
 - By beholding the glory of the Lord.
 - And the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. But we all our face having been unveiled, having beheld the glory of the Lord in a mirror, are being changed into the same image from glory to glory, as from the Lord Spirit. (**2 Corinthians 3:17-18 Interlinear Bible**)
 - **1 Corinthians 6:17**
 - **2 Corinthians 5:17**
 - **Galatians 6:15**
 - Our part is to behold Him as in a mirror through His Spirit in His Word...His part is to change us and transform us as we do.