

Kingdom Transformation

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Who God is to you, He will be through you. Who God is to me He will be through me.

Prayer - Lord may we be cataracts of your Presence, currents of your glory.

A fishing story or two. I use different rods, reels, tackle and lures depending on the targeted species:

A. Rainbow trout in the North GA mountains (1 lb)

B. Largemouth bass in GA lakes (1-5 lbs)

C. Speckled trout (1-3 lbs) and redfish (1-40 lbs) in the Indian River Lagoon/ Mosquito Lagoon

D. Mahi mahi 10-20 miles offshore (5-40 lbs)

Tim Gray – massive redfish. Daniel Stone and Tim Gray – mahi mahi.

Jessica Needham – spots first school of mahi ... 17 fish later, the boat leaves for home.

“Have an encounter so you can BE an encounter.”

Acts 2:41(+3000), Acts 4:4 (+5000), Acts 6:7 (large number of priests)

Chris at Man in the mirror – 170,000 touched in a Pakistan crusade last week

Rub shoulders with Jesus so that you can share your story with others, and in so doing, people catch a glimpse of God because of the way His glory radiates through you.

Romans 12: 4-8 – the body needs all its' parts to function.

Question #1

Who is God to you? In what areas do you harmonize with God's kingdom? Where do you lean into God's presence? What aspects of God's kingdom make you come alive?

(Music, nature, service, sports, science, relationships...)

Heb. 1:3, “The Son is the **radiance** of God's glory and the exact representation of his being...”

John 14: 9, Jesus speaking to Philip, “If you've **seen** me, you've **seen** the Father.”

Matthew 17: 1-2, “After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James, and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. There he was **transfigured** before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as light.”

Why did Jesus take these three up the mountain with him?

Romans 12: 1-2, “Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but **be transformed** by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is – his good, pleasing, and perfect will.”

2 Corinthians 3: 17-18, “Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, **are being transformed** into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.”

2 Cor. 5 :17, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, **he is a new creation**. The old has gone, the **new has come!**"

Philippians 2: 20-21, Jesus "...will **transform** our bodies so they will be like his glorious body."
1 John 3: 1-4, "...when he appears, we will **be like him**, for we will see him as he as."

The word translated as "transformed" is the Greek word metamorpheo, as in metamorphosis. "Risen" scene demonstrating a moment of transformation.

We come to God in the following progress:

Slaves of Christ → servants of the Most High → ambassadors for Christ → sons and daughters.

To be clear,

1. We progress because of the Father's favor, grace, and mercy.
2. We progress because of what Christ has already attained for us.
3. Christ invites us to be new creations.

...so let's progress. God's kingdom is a kingdom of increase, Isaiah 9: 7 – "Wonderful, Counselor..."

God's pace of progress is often measured in generations, 40 year increments. Be patient with the process but don't be stagnant. The parable of the talents would actively encourage us to invest ourselves in God's kingdom, rather than bury ourselves and wait for the Rapture.

Moses – 40 years in Pharaoh's palace; 40 years in the wilderness; 40 years leading God's people

Question #2

"What's that you have in your hand?" What are your gripping and how can God use it?

Electrical transformer – a device used to change the voltage of electricity flowing in a circuit.

Transformers can be used to either increase (step up) or decrease (step down) the voltage.

Spiritual transformer – a tool or person used to change the current of the Spirit flowing in a church or another person.

The mind – where our spirits are tethered to our bodies

"...but be transformed by the renewing of your minds." (Romans 12: 2b)

"But we have the mind of Christ." (1 Corinthians 2: 16b)

How to be transformed – some thoughts

1. Education

We all engage in 12 years of formal schooling. The most important thing we learn is how to learn. Then we have the school of hard knocks, aka OJT (On the Job training). Many of us have master's degrees and PhDs from this school. All of us can continue to pursue growth in wisdom and knowledge through these archaic things called books...or podcasts, or any other electronic media. Also, ask others what they do? "Aron, what are you reading?" Or pick another person...

2. Experience

So, you want to learn how to be a Jedi Knight? Then hang out with Jedi Knights and Jedi Masters. Who are those in your areas of interest and expertise who lead the way? If you want to be wise, hang with the wise. **“Experience is what you get *after* you need it.”**

Actively search for growth opportunities alongside those who will help “Soar on eagle’s wings ... run and not be weary, walk and not faint.”

Mike Nash – knows his way around a paint brush at Neighbor-to-neighbor

3. Elucidation

God is light and God brings light. Elucidation is a process of bringing something into the light. Meditating with Jesus brings us into the light. We are able to operationalize God’s kingdom as we contemplate and conspire together with Christ. We should regularly spend time dreaming with Jesus. It has been said that the spiritual revelator is located next to the “maker-upper.” We need to present our imaginations to God and wash them in the blood of Christ. **A divinely inspired imagination adds kingdom dimensions to any X-Y-Z discussion.** Let’s keep our eyes wide open, our bodies prepared, our finances solid, and our spirits attuned to the trajectory of the Spirit. Find people who inspire and challenge you with their thoughts and words. You don’t have to agree with everything, just think, roll it around in your spirit, and put it on the table with the Lord.

So, education, experience, and elucidation are all nice sounding phrases

Question #3

What are you going to do about it?

Examples:

1. Read a book (argh! No, not a book!!!)
2. Meet with some guys on a regular basis (perhaps once a month for breakfast)
3. Attend a community group on a regular basis – go with something to give
4. Take notes in church, write a question or two to yourself, then go look it up
5. Service ops: Neighbor-to-neighbor, Home Town Suites
6. Target a non-Christian in your life and plan on doing something nonChristian with them
7. Study the Bible – like really study
 - A. Read all of Hebrews each week x 3
 - B. Study Melchizedek, study other theophanies → How do they point to Christ/God?
 - C. Memorize 3-5 keys texts in Hebrews that speak to you:
Heb 1:3, 4:12, 5:14, 9:14, 10:14, 11:1, 12:1-3, 11-13, and 29, 13:8
 - D. Take the Galatians 5: 22-23 fruit of the spirit and write out ways you can personally grow in each of these areas. Strategize ahead of time and with the Lord’s anointing.

**Who God is to you He will be through you.
Open up the channels of his Presence in your life.**