

# “THE POWER TO CHANGE YOUR LIFE”

## The Power To Change Your Life, Part 1

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A question I’m frequently asked, “Why can’t I change \_\_\_\_\_?”

Self-help books tell you what \_\_\_\_\_ to do but can’t give you the power \_\_\_\_\_ to do it  
Christianity \_\_\_\_\_ offers you the power you need to change

The most important thing in life is knowing \_\_\_\_\_ Christ and experiencing \_\_\_\_\_  
the power of His resurrection

Philippians 3:10 (NIV) “[Paul] I want to know Christ and the power of His resurrection.”

Ephesians 1:19-20 (LB) “I pray that you will begin to understand how incredibly great His power is to help those who believe Him. It is the same mighty power that raised Christ from the dead and seated Him in the place of honor at God’s right hand in heaven.”

God wants to give you dynamite \_\_\_\_\_ power in your life, the power that can change your life

### God’s Power Can Help You...

#### 1. God’s power can help you cancel your past \_\_\_\_\_

Some people let their past limit their present \_\_\_\_\_ opportunities

God says it is unnecessary to carry around a heavy load of guilt \_\_\_\_\_  
Colossians 2:13,14 (NIV) “He [God] forgave us all our sins,...He took it away, nailing it to the cross.”

Jesus Christ did not come to condemn \_\_\_\_\_ you, but to change \_\_\_\_\_ you  
Jeremiah 31:34 (NIV) “...the Lord declares, ‘For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.’”

God has canceled your past to free you to get on with the present \_\_\_\_\_

God can cancel your past because of Christ’s death \_\_\_\_\_  
John 19:30 (NIV) “[Jesus] It is finished.”

Christ’s death “paid in full” for every sin you’ve ever made \_\_\_\_\_ & will make \_\_\_\_\_  
Romans 8:1 (NIV) “Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus,...”

We can short-circuit God’s power in our lives by: not believing God has truly  
forgiven \_\_\_\_\_ us or by choosing not to forgive ourselves \_\_\_\_\_  
Philippians 3:13-14 (NIV) “Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.”

#### 2. God’s power will conquer your problems \_\_\_\_\_

Normally we try to solve all our problems with our own power \_\_\_\_\_

God wants us to stop trying \_\_\_\_\_ and start trusting \_\_\_\_\_ Him with our problems  
1 Peter 5:7 (LB) “Let Him have all your worries and cares, for He is always thinking about you and watching everything that concerns you.”

You can’t always control your circumstances, but you can control how you Respond \_\_\_\_\_  
to them

Take your focus off your problems and focus on God's promises  
Romans 8:35 & 37 (NIV) "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?... No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us."

No matter how hopeless life seems, God brings hope  
Acts 4:29,31 (NLT) "And now, O Lord, hear their threats, and give us, your servants, great boldness in preaching your word... After this prayer, the meeting place shook, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit. Then they preached the word of God with boldness."

### 3. God's power can change your personal hang-ups

#### God Uses A Two-Step Process To Change us

1. You commit your life to Christ  
2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIV) "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!"

2. A lifelong process of molding & shaping  
Romans 12:2 (Ph) "Don't let the world around you squeeze you into its own mould, but let God remake you so that your whole attitude of mind is changed. Thus you will prove in practice that the will of God is good, acceptable to Him, and perfect."

God changes us by producing in us the fruit of the Spirit  
Galatians 5:22,23 (NIV) "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control."

The fruit of the Spirit isn't something we work up; it's something God produces in us when we fully trust Him with our lives

One thing will keep you from changing and becoming the person you and God want you to be:

procrastination  
Exodus 8:9-10 (NIV) "Moses said to Pharaoh, 'I leave to you the honor of setting the time for me to pray for you and your officials and your people that you and your houses may be rid of the frogs, except for those that remain in the Nile. Tomorrow,' Pharaoh said."

#### My Next Step Today

- I am committing my life to Christ for the very first time
- There is something in my past I am asking God to forgive so I can move on with my life
- I am facing a current problem with which I need Christ's power
- I will memorize Galatians 5:22,23