

**ORGANIC CONVERSATION (WHAT SPOKE TO YOU FROM THIS WEEK’S WORSHIP GATHERING?)**

*Were you challenged or encouraged in any way? How?  
Have you seen anything play out in your life recently?*

**FROM HEAD → HEART → HANDS (MAKING IT REAL)**

No one sets out saying “I’m going to keep making the mistakes that I’ve made all my life. This is great!”, but we seem to find ourselves repeating history. Paul reminds us that it was always God’s design to make us new in Christ! We get to take off the old, ragged, filthy us and put on the very nature of Jesus!

During the sermon, Pastor Alex highlighted *the* essential element for this kind of transformation: God’s Holy Spirit! Without him, we lack both the understanding and the power to overcome the darkness inside us.

*When faced with your own sin (which is usually a reoccurring issues) is your first response typically, “I have to try harder...study more...be stronger”? How did that work out for you?*

This kind of mentality leads to legalism and self-righteousness. We think that we can be transformed if only we tried harder! God gives us his Holy Spirit because he knows we can’t do it in our own strength.

*When was the last time you acknowledged your weakness and cried out to God for his help? How can we as your brothers and sisters in Christ pray for you?*

**\*Make sure you don’t just brush past this as a discussion point. Take some time to pray for one another and declare in the Spirit, God’s victory and freedom and new nature!**

**THE THREADS OF SCRIPTURE (ADDITIONAL BIBLE PASSAGES FOR STUDY/DISCUSSION)**

**Scripture:** Read Philippians 4:8-9 (*always feel free to share with each other in response to the scripture before going on to the guide*)

Ephesians 4 warns us throw off our “deceitful desires”, but in order to do this, we must replace them with good desires. Paul encourages in this Philippians passage to reframe your mind around things that honor God.

*Take some time now as a group to think about some things that are “true, honorable, just...”. What do you love about God? Where do you see him at work? How has he encouraged you?*

**STEP-BY-STEP (WHAT NOW?)**

While conversation is good, we want to see our lives changed by God!  
What is God calling you to do in response to His Word?

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