

Change = To _____ something with something else. Especially something of the same kind that is newer or better. To _____. To be different, become altered or modified.

The process of spiritual transformation while done best
_____ community, can't be done _____ the community.

Do not conform 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. - Romans 12:2 (NIV)

Main Point: Conformity happens by chance; transformation happens by choice.

Point #1: Transformation begins with desire.

When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. - John 16:13 (ESV)

Since you have heard about Jesus and have learned the truth that comes from him, throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception. Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes. Put on your new nature, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy. - Ephesians 4:21-24 (NLT)

Point #2: Transformation requires effort.

“God isn’t opposed to effort; He’s opposed to earning.”

- Dallas Willard

That is why the Lord says, “Turn to me now, while there is time. Give me your hearts. Come with fasting, weeping, and mourning. 13 Don’t tear your clothing in your grief, but tear your hearts instead.” Return to the Lord your God, for he is merciful and compassionate, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love.

He is eager to relent and not punish.

- Joel 2:12-13 (NLT)

Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.

- Colossians 3:2 (NIV)

Soul = your “_____” self, _____, _____, and _____.

Spirit = your “_____” self, controlled by and _____ to the _____.

And I will give you a new heart, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony, stubborn heart and give you a tender, responsive heart.[a] 27 And I will put my Spirit in you so that you will follow my decrees and be careful to obey my regulations.

- Ezekiel 36:26-27 (NLT)

Point #3: Transformed people can change the world.

But if it is from God, you will not be able to stop these men; you will only find yourselves fighting against God.”

- Acts 5:39 (NIV)

This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

- 2 Corinthians 5:17 (NLT)

Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. 17 For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. 18 So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

- 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 (NIV)