



**The Overcomers Christian Fellowship International  
Plymouth, United Kingdom**

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## **OCCI HOUSE FELLOWSHIP GROUP BIBLE OUTLINES.**

**JANUARY 2016.**

### **TOPIC: DIVINE TRANSFORMATION.**

**MEMORY VERSE: 2 Corinthians 5:17** “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new”.

**TEXT: Romans 12:1-2.**

#### **(I)INTRODUCTION:**

Change is something we all need. It is an ongoing part of life. With its constant flux, life demands adjustments for our schedules and plans. Essentially, change is the new norm. But people’s spiritual lives call for more than slight changes to the calendar (new year resolution!). Christian’s lives are in need of transformation. Spiritual change is needed by everyone—the poor and the rich, the success and the failure. Transformation comes from re-creation, the re-creation that comes from new life in Christ. The change people need most is not in their circumstances, but in themselves.

#### **(II)PRINCIPLES NEEDED:**

##### **(A) REAL CHANGE STARTS WITH NEW LIFE, NOT JUST A NEW LEAF.**

The very heart of the Christian faith revolves around change, but it is not turning over a new leaf—it is living out a new life. (2 Corinthians 5:17).

Christian transformation always involves something old passing away and something new taking its place.

##### **(B) REAL CHANGE IS A PROCESS, NOT A DESTINATION.**

Nobody ever gets to a place of being everything God has called them to be on this side of eternity. It is part of why we yearn for the eternal life with Him. Our life is one of growth (Philippians 1:6; 2 Corinthians 3:18). When a believer sets their eyes on God, then life will be in the process of transformation.

##### **(C) CHANGE IS LETTING GO AND GRABBING HOLD.**

God doesn’t force anyone to change, but he calls us to change. He says things like, “Be holy as I am holy,” and it sounds like an impossible task. But its possibility comes by the work of God and not the work of man. The transformation that comes to us spiritually empowers us to move from religious behaviour to spiritual acceptance of God’s work- Ephesians 4:20-24.

We are called to put off the “old man” and take hold of the “new man.” But we all know that letting go of the familiar is difficult, even when the new that is offered is better. For some reason, it seems part of our psyche to resist change, even when it will help. Here are some of the reasons that change is difficult for people:

- i. Because people are stubborn.
- ii. Because people are trapped with hobbies, preferences, pride e.t.c.

*‘... greater is He that is in us than he that is in the world’ 1 John 4:4*



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iii. Because people are comfortable especially with sins that keep us from knowing Christ; and with our “seemingly satisfied” standard of living.

iv. Because we are afraid- Fear of the unknown is a primary reason people don't change.

v. Because change hurts- Even good change costs some of a person's security. Leaving the proverbial “comfort zone” will cause a ripple effect that carries a price.

**(III) CONCLUSION:**

We can't choose whether change will come or not. But we can choose whether to embrace it or resist it. People never change until the pain of staying the same grows greater than the pain of change. The transformation is there for the choosing. The change we all need is the change offered by Christ. It is a transformation that we are privileged to serve as an ambassador for in this life.

**PRAYER POINTS:**

- (1) O LORD MY FATHER, HELP ME TO WALK WORTHY OF, AND PLEASING TO THE LORD, IN JESUS NAME.**
- (2) I PARALYZE EVERY ENEMY OF THE GOSPEL IN MY LIFE, IN JESUS NAME.**
- (3) O LORD JESUS, BREAK ME, MELT ME, MOULD ME, FILL ME AND USE ME BY POWER OF YOUR SPIRIT, IN JESUS NAME.**

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