

## “Vital Sign 6: Transformation – Breaking Bad Habits for Good”

Greg Wendschlag October 30, 2016

*"May God Himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The One who calls you is faithful and He will do it!" 1 Thess. 5:23*

Sanctification – to **make holy**, to **change** into the likeness of Christ.

We are presently in one of three change modes:

1. **Regressing**
2. **Maintaining**
3. **Changing**

### 3 Key Principles of Change

1. **Change** precedes **progress** and **challenge** precedes change.
2. If we **desire** to change, we must **challenge** the process.
3. Jesus **desires** that we change.

*"He called a little child and had him stand among them. And he said: "I tell you the truth, unless you **change and become** like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven." Matt 18:2-4*

*"Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be **transformed** by the renewing of your mind." Rom 12:2*

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

### The Challenge of Change in the Life of David

#### 1 Samuel 17

1. There is **something** in your life that you need to change **today**.

*"Now the Philistines gathered their forces for war...Goliath stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel..." vs 1, 8*

- When the objective is **Christ-likeness**, there is **always** something that needs to change.
2. If you **do not change** the issue **will not go away**.

*"For 40 days the Philistine came forward every morning and every evening and took his stand." Vs 16*

- **Ignoring** the issue won't change anything.

3. Evaluate your life **often** and **honestly**.

*"What will be done for the man who kills (him)...Who is this....Philistine?...Let no one lose heart on account of this Philistine; your servant will go and fight him" vs 26, 32*

- Be on the lookout for things that **need to change**.

4. Don't assume **old methods** will solve the new issues.

*"I cannot go in these because I am not used to them." Vs 39*

- Don't **fear** trying something new.

5. When you move **beyond fear**, you **become free**.

*"As the Philistine approached him, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet him." Vs 39*

- What would you do if you **weren't afraid**?

6. Change is **contagious**.

*"Then the men of Israel surged forward with a shout and pursued (them)..." vs 52*

- When you change you **encourage** others.

7. You **can change** because God **does not change**.

*"I the Lord do not change. So you, O descendants of Jacob are not destroyed...return to me and I will return to you." Mal. 3:6-7*

- God's **love** will never change.
- God's **word** will never change.
- God's **purpose** will never change.

*"Being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." Phil. 1:6*