

## WHEN CHANGE SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE

### Issues For Christ Followers – Part 2

July 21, 2013

**Ephesians 2:10 (NLT)** *“For we are God’s masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so that we can do the good things He planned for us long ago.”*

#### FOR THIS CHANGE TO HAPPEN...

##### 1. **EMBRACE** the big picture.

**Hebrews 10:10 (NLT)** *“For God’s will was for us to be made holy by the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ, once for all time.”*

**Leviticus 20:7-8 (NLT)** *“So set yourselves apart to be holy, for I am the LORD your God. <sup>8</sup>Keep all My decrees by putting them into practice, for I am the LORD who makes you holy.”*

**FACT: God has an INTENTIONAL DESIRE to make your life holy!**

**2 Corinthians 5:17 (NLT)** *“This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!”*

**Ephesians 3:20 (NLT)** *“Now all glory to God, who is able, through His mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think.”*

##### 2. **COOPERATE** with the Artist.

***“We do the possible in life with faith that God will do the impossible.”***

**Philippians 3:12-14 (MSG)** *“I’m not saying I have this all together, that I have it made, but I’m well on my way, reaching out for Christ who has so wondrously reached out for me. <sup>13</sup>Friends, don’t get me wrong: By no means do I count myself an expert in all of this, but I’ve got my eye on the goal where God is beckoning us onward—to Jesus. <sup>14</sup>I’m off and running and I’m not turning back.”*

**FACT: We make an INCREDIBLE TEAM with God.**

**Instead of trying to escape, just pause for a second and say, “God, what do You want to change in me right now?”**

##### 3. **ACCEPT** the unique process.

**Philippians 1:6 (NLT)** *“And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue His work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.”*

**FACT: Our growth is often an**

**INCONSISTENT RHYTHM.**

**Your change doesn’t look like the change of anybody else!**

##### 4. **APPRECIATE** the Master’s work.

**Psalms 40:5 (NLT)** *“O LORD my God, You have performed many wonders for us. Your plans for us are too numerous to list. You have no equal. If I tried to recite all Your wonderful deeds, I would never come to the end of them.”*

**Quit looking for instant changes and begin to look at the areas where you have made more subtle changes.**

**FACT: God’s change leads to an**

**INEXPLICABLE JOY.**

**Let God make all things new in your life!  
Embrace the change He is offering to you.**

**Ezekiel 36:26-27 (MSG)** *“I’ll give you a new heart, put a new spirit in you. I’ll remove the stone heart from your body and replace it with a heart that’s God-willed not self-willed. I’ll put My Spirit in you and make it possible for you to do what I tell you to do and live by My commands.”*