4 in the series Biblical Keys to Living a Joy Filled Life #4 Become a Christ-like Disciple

Philippians 2:12-13

Fact: God is in the life change business.

"Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose." Philippians 2:12-13 (NIV)

I. _____ PART IN CHANGING ME

1. God uses ______.

Fact: as long as you are alive – you are going to have problems.

"It's human! Mortals are born and bred for trouble, as certainly as sparks fly upward." Job 5:7 (MSG)

2. God uses the _____/____.

"Every part of Scripture is God-breathed and useful one way or another showing us truth, exposing our rebellion, correcting our mistakes, training us to live God's way. Through the Word we are put together and shaped up for the tasks God has for us." 2 Timothy 3:16-17 (MSG)

3. God changes us through the ______.

"And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you." Romans 8:11 (NIV)

"When God lives and breathes in you (and he does, as surely as he did in Jesus), you are delivered from that dead life. With his Spirit living in you, your body will be as alive as Christ's!" Romans 8:11b (MSG) "And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit." 2 Corinthians 3:18 (NIV)

 Fact: God's number one purpose in your life is not to make

 you ________ – it is to make you _______ – just as Christ was holy.

II. _____ PART IN CHANGING ME

1. I can choose what I _____ about.

"Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things." Philippians 4:8 (NIV)

"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)

2. I can choose to _____ on God.

"Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." John 15:4-5 (NIV)

3. I can choose how I respond to ______.

"Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, ³ because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. ⁴ Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything." James 1:2-4 (NIV)

"Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; ⁴ perseverance, character; and character, hope." Romans 5:3-4 (NIV)

God is more concerned with your character than He is with your comfort.

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