

Our Core Values - Part 9

Spiritual Transformation: Changing lives through a relationship with Jesus.

Brian E. Smith - May 26, 2024

Romans 12:1-2 (NIV)

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. 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.

Spiritual Growth Is...

A _____ you can make.

v 1 I urge you...offer your bodies...this is your spiritual act.

v 2 Do not conform...be transformed

A _____ that isn't _____.

v 1 offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God

A lifelong _____
to your _____.

v 2 (NLT) Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good, pleasing and perfect.

Steps To Growing Closer To God

Luke 15:11-24 (NLT)

First Steps

1. **Get** _____ **with** _____.

Luke 15:13-14,17 (NLT) ...he wasted all his money...he began to starve...he came to his senses

2. _____ **my** _____.

Luke 15:17-18 (NLT) When he finally came to his senses...I have sinned against both heaven (God) and you.

Isaiah 59:2 (NLT) It is your sins that that have cut you off from God. Because of your sins, he has turned away...

Psalms 51:1-4 (GNT) Be merciful to me, O God, because of your constant love. Because of your great mercy wipe away my sins! Wash away all my evil and make me clean from my sin! I recognize my faults; I am always conscious of my sins. I have sinned against you—only against you—and done what you consider evil. So you are right in judging me; you are justified in condemning me.

3. _____ **up** _____.

Luke 15:12 (NLT) The younger son told his father, "I want my share..."

Luke 15:19 (NLT) "Please take me as a hired servant"

Romans 12:1-2 (NIV) Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to **offer your bodies** as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but **be transformed** by the renewing of your mind.

The Father's Response

Luke 15:20,22 (NLT) Filled with love and compassion, **he ran to his son**, embraced him and kissed him...Bring the finest...

4. _____ **up my** _____.

Luke 15:23-24 (NLT) ...'We must celebrate with a feast, for this son of mine was dead and has now returned to life. He was lost, but now he is found.' So the party began.

Psalms 68:4 (NLT) Sing praises to God and to his name! Sing loud praises to him who rides the clouds. His name is the Lord—rejoice in his presence!

Psalms 13:6 (NLT) I will sing to the Lord because he is good to me.