

# Transformation Journal

February 7

Daily Devotions for the week of February 7, 2010

**Monday:** Review yesterday's notes. The world is full of "thieves" and "bandits" whose purpose is to take from your life to benefit their own. They are often cleverly disguised, however and we "buy" what they are selling thinking that it will fulfill our lives. Among all the alternatives, Jesus is the one who is the guide to living life to the full.

**S**cripture: Read John 10:1-18

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### Journal Questions

1. Who or what are some of the "thieves and bandits" in your life that are keeping you from following the One whose purpose is leading you to an abundant life?
2. The Good Shepherd lays down his life for you. How does that effect your decision or motivation to learn life from him.

### Prayer Focus

Pray for those who feel stuck in life or who are struggling with loneliness and depression.

**Tuesday:** *In the context of Judas who betrays Jesus, and Peter who will deny him three times, Jesus gives his followers a new commandment to love one another as he has loved them. His love is not based on their worthiness (obviously given the examples of Judas and Peter). The context of your acceptance of others in Christian community is Jesus' unconditional acceptance of you. You are to "pay it forward."*

**Scripture: Read John 13:21-38**

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**Journal Questions**

1. Do you feel accepted by Jesus? If not you can't be real and thus can't live into the full life that he offers.
2. As Jesus has loved you (i.e. unconditionally) you are to love others. Is there someone you are not loving as Jesus has loved you? Who? How can you remedy this? Do you need help from your small group? If so, let them know.

**Prayer Focus**

If you identified someone in question 2, pray for them. See them through the eyes of Jesus.

**Wednesday:** *The parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector is a contrast in authenticity. The one who was real went away justified (to be justified is to be in right relationship with God and thus connected to the source of abundant life); the one who wore the "mask" remained as he was.*

**Scripture: Read Luke 18:9-14**

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**Journal Questions**

1. With whom do you identify the most; the Pharisee or the Tax Collector?
2. What does it take to be as honest as the Tax Collector?

**Prayer Focus**

Pray for a humble and genuine attitude. Offer to Christ your true condition. Be as honest as you can.

**Thursday:** Notice Paul's honest assessment of himself. He considers himself the least of all the apostles, yet he recognizes that he is what he is by the grace of God. Paul exemplifies and authenticity that made it possible for God to use him in powerful ways.

**Scripture:** Read 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

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**Journal Questions**

1. Are you what you are by the grace of God? How much credit belongs to God? How much credit belongs to you?
2. Being real does not mean that you have a false humility (e.g. Paul). What is the difference between an honest assessment of yourself and a false humility?

**Prayer Focus**

Thank God that you are what you are by His grace.

**Friday:** Simon Peter is another person whose authenticity allowed Jesus to do great things through his life.

**Scripture:** Read Luke 5:1-11

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**Journal Questions**

1. Why would Jesus call a sinful man like Simon Peter?
2. What kind of people is Jesus looking for?

**Prayer Focus**

Pray for our worship services this weekend, that we might be inspired to follow Christ more closely.

**Saturday** – Read over your notes for the week and see how you are doing with your personal applications.