



The transforming touch of Heaven

STUDY 7

Sunday 3rd June 2018

Reading – Romans 12 1-2

7. Heaven's Agents on Earth.

Over the past 6 weeks we have been looking at the transforming touch of heaven, we have focused on characters of the bible and how God transformed them, we celebrated the giving of the holy spirit and how through the disciples this was a transforming touch of heaven come down.

Now I want us to consider 'us' as agents of heaven's transformation, to grow his kingdom. I probably have more questions for you to think about than scripture to explore but perhaps as you work in your small groups you can think about additional relevant scripture.

1. Heavens agents in training – be transformed

Paul makes the case we are distinct from the world and need to have minds continually transformed. One example of transformation we can see in the Bible is of the disciples post Pentecost. The people remarked that **“Now as they observed the confidence of Peter and John and understood that they were uneducated and untrained men, they were amazed, and began to recognize them as having been with Jesus.”**—Acts 4:13

Therefore, if we are to be obedient to Romans 12;

- How well are you doing at spending time with Jesus;
 - Are there things that need to change?
 - Who can help mentor/challenge you?

Re read Romans 12 1-3 and critically evaluate are you being transformed?

- What does transformation look like for you?
- What are areas for us as individuals and the church that need transformation?
- How will you know if you have arrived? If you ever will

2. Heavens agents in action – transforming the world

We have been given so many assurances, examples and commands;

- 1 john 5:14-15
- Matt 28: 18-20
- Galatians 5:22-25

So why does the church seem so disempowered?

We live in a 'Post Christian' Britain. We took a quick look at some of the challenges our society is increasingly throwing at Christians so what does it mean for us as Christians to have biblical integrity?

- Do you experience areas of Holy discontent? What are they?
- What do you think you can do to address them?

- How would you deal with someone who uses the name of Jesus as an expression of frustration or anger?
- How can you be seen as distinct and relevant?
- How can WBC be seen as distinct and relevant?
- What is your role in enabling WBC to be seen as distinct and relevant?

3. Heavens agents in action – Putting passion to action

Sometimes it is difficult to know where to start, many people look for a calling or a distinct word of guidance, but I believe God has placed us into positions where we are **'FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS'**. When God appeared to Moses, Moses answered 'Here I am' so was not afraid. After God says he has seen the suffering of his people he seeks to send Moses, but Moses continually puts up objections. Then the Lord asks Moses "what's in his hand" and you know the rest of the story (Exodus 3:11 to 4:9). God used Moses passion and what he had.

- What is your passion and 'stick in the hand' that God can use for his glory?
- Will you be an agent for heaven and transform our world, or just keep your head down?

Take the opportunity to pray about your continual transformation and your role as heaven's agent for transformation in the world?

FOR YOUR NOTES