



# Change

“THE SACRIFICES OF GOD ARE A BROKEN SPIRIT...” — PSALM 51:17

Week 5 of 8

**PRAY // Excerpt from NY Times article // CHANGE is the one constant in our lives**

A very important lesson about change.

Everyone wants **everyone else** to change.

**I learned this in Chicago. // The most difficult job // God has it.**

*And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.*

**Romans 8:28-29**

## JESUS IS THE MODEL OF WHOLENESS!

- ▶ People attacked him, and he never felt the need to retaliate.
- ▶ People accused him, and he never felt the need to defend himself.
- ▶ People flocked to him, and he never got a big head.
- ▶ People offered him authority, and he never grabbed for power.
- ▶ He never gave in to addiction, temptation, depression, apathy.
- ▶ He allowed himself to be crucified without ever being victimized.

**We are broken but God wants to make us whole, like Jesus... to change us.**

**Will we move with God or against him?**

**Our goal this series is that we would “work the steps”  
to find wholeness and holiness.**

## RECOVERY STEP 5:

Voluntarily submit to **every change** God wants to make in my life and humbly ask Him to remove my character defects.

**ILL: I've met people who expect God to do all the work // EVERY CHANGE // GOD WANTS**

*“Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Will he not first sit down and estimate the cost to see if he has enough money to complete it? For if he lays the foundation and is not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule him, saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’”*

**Luke 14:28-30**

## How do I open my life up to change?

*Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.*

**Matthew 5:6**

## 1. WE MUST BE COMPLETELY **dissatisfied** WITH LIFE AS IT IS.

Jesus said **Hunger & Thirst**.

**HUNGER & THIRST // My cravings // My fasting // spirituality as a craving??**

## 2. WE MUST HAVE A CLEAR PICTURE OF THE **goal**.

Jesus said the hunger is for **Righteousness**.

**RIGHTEOUSNESS MEANS ALWAYS DOING WHAT'S RIGHT.**

*People were overwhelmed with amazement. “He has done everything well,” they said. “He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak.”*

**Mark 7:37**

*“If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to save us from it, and he will rescue us from your hand, O king. But even if he does not, we want you to know, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up.”*

**Daniel 3:17-18**

**The goal is 100% faithfulness to the will of God for you at any moment.**

## 3. WE MUST HAVE CONFIDENCE IN THE **outcome**.

Jesus said the hungry **will be filled**.

**We have roadblocks in our lives // behavior habits // mental habits // “TRUST WOUNDS”**

- ▶ Can I trust God to change me?  
**THAT'S HIS WHOLE AGENDA!**
- ▶ Can I trust God to change me for the better?  
**IS JESUS “BETTER”?**
- ▶ Can I trust God to change me according to my plan?  
**NO!**

**ARE YOU HUNGRY?**