

Making Changes in Life
First Baptist Church of Avon Park, Florida - pastorjonbeck.com

Are you ready to change? Are you ready to change the way you do things and to change the results that you are getting? Change is possible; but that change can only come as we begin to change the way we live our life. Changing the way we live our life involves seeing God in a new way. We must see God for who He is. He will forgive and guide you every step of the way. He will bless our obedience and will punish our disobedience. He is faithful and just to do what He says He will do.

2 Cor. 9:8 “And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, have an abundance for every good work.”

2 Cor. 4:8-9, 16-18 “We are hard pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed... *V 16* Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward [man] is being renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.”

Rom. 8:28-29 “And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. For whom He foreknew, He also predestined ***to be conformed to the image of His Son***, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.”

Changing life means changing direction. We need to MOVE FORWARD from where we are now.

Moving forward involves making changes.

1. Lay down bad habits. (We must repent and change direction)
 - If we keep doing what we have always done we will keep getting the same results.
 - Wrong is wrong and it will always be wrong.
2. Change the way we think and look at life. (We need to see life from God’s perspective)
 - To change our mind about life we need to change what we put into our mind.

Phil. 4:8-9 “Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy--meditate on these things. The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.”

- Become a person of prayer. Talk to God. Pour out your heart to Him in praise and thanksgiving.
- Become a person of God's Word. Read the Word. Study the Word. Apply the Word to your life. The Bible is God's Word to us. It has all the answers for life and Godliness.
- Become a person who strives to do what is right.

3. Begin associating with Christian people

- Bad company produces bad character
- We must associate with people that will encourage us to grow in the Lord. Ask yourself this question: Do the people I currently associate with help me in my walk with God or do they cause me to grow more distant from God?
- Find a church and make the worship of God a priority
- Find a church and make fellowship with others a priority

Moving forward starts today.

1. Ask Jesus Christ to forgive you of your sin and commit your life to His lordship.

- Know that you have come into a relationship with God through Jesus Christ.
- Have an assurance of your salvation...know that you have been born again.

2. Begin to grow and change everyday in your walk with God.

3. Put your hope and trust in God and God alone.

4. Keep moving forward. Do not give up...take each day at a time.

Phil. 4:13 "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

Titus 2:11-13 "For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age"