

RED LETTER CHALLENGE ... CHANGING (Matthew 17:1-8)

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In the letter of James, we read, “Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like.” (James 1:23-24) When we look at the words of Jesus in the Bible, do we go away unchanged? No. Jesus’ words are life changing!

Biblical change works _____.

A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. – Luke 6:45

The _____ at Jesus’ Transfiguration:

Matthew 17:1-5

While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!” – Matthew 17:5

CHANGE 101 ...

1. **Our _____ needs to change.**

1 John 3:1, Luke 15:21

God doesn't operate on a _____ foundation.

2. **Our _____ needs to change.**

Matthew 17:6-7, Proverbs 29:25

But Jesus came and touched them. “Get up,” he said. “Don’t be afraid.” – Matthew 17:7

Jesus reveals Himself not for fear, but for _____.

3. **Our _____ needs to change.**

Matthew 17:8, Matthew 14:29-30

Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, “Lord, save me!” – Matthew 14:29-30

**May the _____ as we focus on...
Being, Forgiving Serving, Giving & Going**

Questions for individual or group reflection:

When has someone else shown you their true colors? Do only negative examples come to mind?

How did Christ reveal Himself at the Transfiguration (Matt. 17:1-8)?

How do you and I reveal Christ to the world?

How does knowing that God is Love, change the foundation of your faith and witness?

What are some negative consequences of fear in your life?

Why were the disciples afraid at the Transfiguration?

Why does Jesus tell His followers not to be afraid?

Have you ever driven while distracted?

How does lack of focus on Jesus affect us? (See Matt. 14:29-30)

How does our Being, Forgiving, Serving, Giving & Going show Christ to the world?



Pray: Heavenly Father, thank you that you have changed us from the inside out, so that we can show your works to the world around us. Thank you for revealing your glory to your disciples and to us. Help us shine that glory into our dark world. May we be changed as we realize that you love us by your grace, not by our own goodness. Cause us to be bold, not fearful because we are secure in your presence. And may our focus be on you as we journey on earth awaiting your return or that day you call us home. In Jesus’ Name. Amen.

Do: Determine what is the greatest change you need to make in order to live out the Red Letter Challenge in your life. Pray about it, then do it. Watch what God does in and through you!

Memory Verse: Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. – James 1:23-24

This message uses materials from RedLetterChallenge.com and Concordia Lutheran Church, San Antonio, TX

RED LETTER

CHALLENGE

RLC

BEING
FORGIVING
SERVING
GIVING
GOING



**Biblical change works
from the inside out.**



Biblical change works from the inside out.

A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart.

– Luke 6:45



The Transfiguration of Jesus

After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light.

– Matthew 17:1-2



The Transfiguration of Jesus

*Just then there appeared before them
Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus.*

– Matthew 17:3



The Triune God at Jesus' Transfiguration

While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!”

– Matthew 17:5



The Triune God at Jesus' Transfiguration

When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified. But Jesus came and touched them. "Get up," he said. "Don't be afraid." When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus.

– Matthew 17:6-7



CHANGE 101 ...



CHANGE 101 ...

1. Our Foundation needs to change.



CHANGE 101 ...

1. Our Foundation needs to change.

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!

The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. - 1 John 3:1



CHANGE 101 ...

1. Our Foundation needs to change.

“The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ - Luke 15:21



CHANGE 101 ...

1. Our Foundation needs to change.

God doesn't operate on a
merit-based foundation.



CHANGE 101 ...

1. Our Foundation needs to change.

God is LOVE!



CHANGE 101 ...

1. Our Foundation needs to change.
2. Our Fear needs to change.



CHANGE 101 ...

1. Our Foundation needs to change.
2. Our Fear needs to change.

When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified.

- Matthew 17:6



CHANGE 101 ...

1. Our Foundation needs to change.
2. Our Fear needs to change.

*But Jesus came and touched them.
“Get up,” he said. “Don’t be afraid.”
- Matthew 17:7*



CHANGE 101 ...

1. Our Foundation needs to change.
2. Our Fear needs to change.

*Fear of man will prove to be a snare,
but whoever trusts in the LORD is kept safe.*

– Proverbs 29:25



CHANGE 101 ...

1. Our Foundation needs to change.
2. Our Fear needs to change.

Jesus reveals Himself not for fear, but for faith.



CHANGE 101 ...

1. Our Foundation needs to change.
2. Our Fear needs to change.
3. Our Focus needs to change.



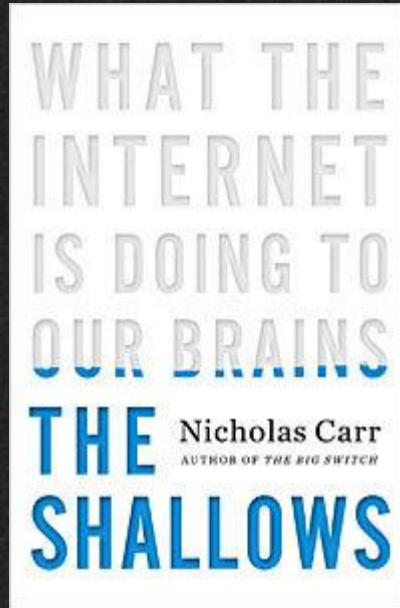
CHANGE 101 ...

When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus.

- Matthew 17:8



CHANGE 101 ...



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CHANGE 101 ...





CHANGE 101 ...

... Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, “Lord, save me!”

- Matthew 14:29-30



May the change in us show God in us



May the change in us show God in us

as we focus on...

Being, Forgiving, Serving, Giving & Going