



Sermon Discussion Guide: *Intentional Transformation*

Introduction

Many people want to change, grow, and become who God created them to be—but often feel stuck, like something isn’t working. This message reminds us that real transformation doesn’t come from trying harder, but from knowing God deeply. True change happens when we intentionally pursue a relationship with Jesus that reshapes what we love, how we live, and who we become.

1. Transformation Begins with Knowing God (Ginōskō)

Key Scripture: John 17:3; 1 John 2:3–6

Knowing God is not just intellectual—it is relational, personal, and life-changing. When we truly know Him, it naturally leads to love and obedience.

Discussion Questions:

- How would you describe the difference between knowing *about* God and truly knowing Him?
- Why do you think obedience is connected to knowing God?
- What are some practical ways you can grow in your relationship with God this week?

2. Knowing God Leads to a Changed Life

Key Idea: Knowing → Love → Obedience → Transformation

Transformation is not behavior-first; it is relationship-first. As we grow in knowing God, our desires change, and our actions follow.

Discussion Questions:

- Which part of the equation (Knowing → Love → Obedience → Transformation) do you find most challenging right now?
- Have you ever tried to “change behavior” without deepening your relationship with God? What happened?
- What does it look like for your love for God to shape your daily decisions?

May 3 – “WITH Jesus”— Intentional Transformation – Lead Pastor Marc Riegel

John 17, 2 Timothy 6:15

3. Transformation Happens Through Intentional Time WITH Jesus

Key Scripture: John 17; rhythms of Jesus

Jesus modeled a life of being WITH the Father, WITH a few, and FOR the world. Transformation flows from consistent, intentional time in God’s presence.

Discussion Questions:

- What currently competes for your time and attention with God?
- What does “intentional time WITH Jesus” look like in your daily life?
- How can you build rhythms that help you stay connected to God consistently?

4. The Spirit Empowers Us to Live Transformed Lives

Key Scripture: 2 Timothy 1:7

We are not left to transform ourselves. The Holy Spirit gives us power, love, and self-discipline to live boldly and faithfully.

Discussion Questions:

- Which of these do you need most right now: power, love, or self-discipline?
- Where do you see fear or timidity holding you back in your faith?
- How can you rely more on the Spirit rather than your own effort?

Takeaway

Real transformation doesn’t come from forcing change—it comes from being WITH Jesus. As you intentionally pursue knowing Him, your love will deepen, your obedience will grow, and your life will be transformed from the inside out.

Closing Challenge:

This week, don’t focus first on changing behavior—focus on creating intentional space to know God more deeply.