

No. 51 Is the Truth Transforming Your Life?

PLEASE NOTE: Motivate those attracted by the Bible's message to apply Bible teachings. If you wish, you may use the artwork provided to illustrate points where indicated

BIBLE TRUTH SHOULD TRANSFORM US (4 min.)

In our day, Jehovah's Witnesses are studying the Bible with millions of people

Such ones are often thrilled to learn the truth about God and his purposes (Joh 8:32)

Learning Bible truth involves more than just gaining knowledge [Read Romans 12:2]

As we come to know Jehovah and understand his love for us, we are moved to love him in return

Our desire to please Jehovah can motivate us to make significant changes (1Pe 1:14, 15)

Is the Bible's inspired message transforming your life? What is involved in such a transformation?

BIBLE TRUTH MOVES US TO CHANGE OUR CONDUCT (7 min.)

To please Jehovah, we need to reject conduct that he disapproves of [Read Ephesians 4:22]

Even deeply entrenched habits can be changed; consider some examples

Abuse of alcohol (Pr 23:20; 1Co 6:10)

Smoking and use of recreational drugs (Ro 12:1; 2Co 7:1)

Sexual immorality and uncleanness (1Co 6:9, 18; Eph 5:3; lvs 121 ¶9)

The apostle Paul told first-century Christians: "That is what some of you were" (1Co 6:11)

[Relate an encouraging modern-day example]

BIBLE TRUTH MOVES US TO CHANGE OUR INNER PERSON (8 min.)

Our transformation must be thorough, not superficial [Read Ephesians 4:23, 24] (w19.06 10 ¶7-9) [Image 1]

We work hard to rid ourselves of attitudes that reflect "the spirit of the world" (1Co 2:12)

Consider a few questions you can ask yourself

'How do I view people of a different race or nationality?' (Ac 10:34, 35)

'Do I see the importance of maintaining high moral standards?'

'What does my choice of dress and grooming reveal?' (1Ti 2:9, 10)

'How do I treat those of the opposite sex?' (1Ti 5:2; w15 6/15 16 ¶10)

'Do my priorities show that I trust in Jehovah?' (Mt 6:33; 1Ti 6:9, 10)

HOW CAN YOU MAKE PROGRESS? (7 min.)

Transforming our thinking and conduct is neither quick nor automatic

It requires ongoing "earnest effort" (2Pe 1:5-8)

What can help you to make progress? [Image 2]

(1) Pray to Jehovah, humbly acknowledging your need for his help (Ps 51:10; w19.06 12 ¶11)

Ask him for holy spirit, which can guide your thoughts and actions (Ga 5:22, 23)

(2) Regularly read the Bible and meditate on it (Ps 119:59; Jas 1:25; w19.06 12 ¶12)

(3) Choose good association (Pr 13:20; Heb 10:24, 25; w19.06 12 ¶14)

Avoid association that weakens your resolve to do what is right

BENEFITS OF BEING TRANSFORMED BY BIBLE TRUTH (4 min.)

As you continue to be transformed by Bible truth, you will enjoy many benefits

Your friendship with Jehovah will grow stronger, bringing you peace and satisfaction (Isa 32:17; Jas 4:8)

Your good example may move others to learn what the Bible teaches

You may enjoy improved health and a happier family life (Isa 48:17)

You will have the hope of enjoying a wonderful future that will last forever (Ps 37:29)

[Adhere closely to the outlined material, and observe the indicated timing of each section.

Not all cited texts need to be read or commented on. See *Ministry School* book, pages 52-55, 166-169]

TO BE COVERED IN 30 MINUTES

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