

THE BIBLICAL FOUNDATION FOR TRUE AND LASTING TRANSFORMATION

OUR MISSION: The mission of Love INC (Love in the Name of Christ) is to equip and mobilize the Church in order to offer hope, help, and a hand up to people in need.

A. OUR MANDATE

1. Deut. 15:10-11 *Give generously to the poor, not grudgingly, for the Lord your God will bless you in everything you do. There will always be some in the land who are poor. That is why I am commanding you to share freely with the poor and with other Israelites in need.*

Lev. 23:22 *When you harvest the crops of your land, do not harvest the grain along the edges of your fields, and do not pick up what the harvesters drop. Leave it for the poor and the foreigners living among you.*

2. Who are the poor?
People lacking the resources that are necessary to live the abundant life Jesus came to provide.
 - a. Material
 - b. Spiritual
 - c. Relational
 - d. Emotional

B. OUR MISSION:

TRANSFORMATION!

...by equipping and mobilizing the Church, in order to offer hope, help, and a hand up to people in need.

1. The Church: To rise to the challenge and become the agent for change and transformation in our community that God has called us to be.
2. Clients: To see them lifted out of poverty, living the abundant life that Jesus promised.
3. Community: To wipe out some of the community woes that keep people in poverty and bondage.
 - a. Predatory lending
 - b. Sex trafficking
 - c. Foster system woes

TRANSFORMATION'S THREE FOUNDATIONAL STONES

- 1 Chron. 16:8-11 Psalm 105:1-4 *Oh, give thanks to the LORD! Call upon His name; Make known His deeds among the peoples! ²Sing to Him, sing psalms to Him; Talk of all His wondrous works! ³Glory in His holy name; Let the hearts of those rejoice who seek the LORD! ⁴Seek the LORD and His strength; Seek His face evermore!*

A. HIS NAME- “*Glory in His holy name.*”

Identity

Self-Worth

➤ **What does this mean for the Church.**

1. The church is experiencing an identity crisis. All too often we see ourselves through the lens of human capacity and limited resources rather than the omnipotent power and unlimited resources of the Lord Jesus Christ.

2. Phil. 2:9-11 *Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, ¹⁰that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, ¹¹and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*
3. The name of Jesus is the most powerful name in the universe.
4. Rev. 17:14 *These (Forces of antichrist) will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those who are with Him are called, chosen, and faithful."*
5. The Church is and always has been the most powerful agent for change on the face of the earth.

➤ **What does this mean for the individual?**

1. Our identity begins with our family of origin, and continues with our life experiences.
2. Life is like a house of mirrors.
3. We see ourselves through the eyes of others and with the messages they give us.
4. We tend to live out the person we believe ourselves to be.
5. True transformation begins when a person comes to the realization of who they are in Christ. True self-worth.
Ephesians 1&2: "In Christ, in Him, in Whom" etc.
23 times Paul refers to our position "in Christ."

6. Transformation is a process: Rom. 12:2 “*Be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.*
7. The process of transformation requires:
 - a. A new house of mirrors, New life experiences,
 - b. God in the flesh
 - c. 2 Cor. 5:1 Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.
 - d. 1 Cor. 12:27 Now, you are the body of Christ, and members individually.
8. We get to be a part of this process:
 - a. Through prayer
 - b. Through encouragement
 - c. Through education
 - d. Through mentoring and counseling
 - e. Through relationship

B. HIS STRENGTH “Seek the Lord and His strength.”

1. Transformation is a life-long, arduous journey.
 - a. It is not an easy process for church nor for the clients we serve.
 - b. It requires inner strength, “intestinal fortitude”
UNLIMITED CAPACITY
2. Inner strength comes from the infilling, the empowering, the anointing of the Holy Spirit.
3. Acts 1:4,5,8 And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, “which,” He said,

"you have heard from Me; ⁵for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." ⁸But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

4. Paul's prays for the Church: Eph 1:15-23
5. Paul prays for the individual Eph3:14-21
6. **Testimony of D L Moody:** I was crying all the time that God would fill me with His Spirit. Well, one day, in the city of New York — oh, what a day! — I cannot describe it, I seldom refer to it; it is almost too sacred an experience to name. Paul had an experience of which he never spoke for fourteen years. I can only say that God revealed Himself to me, and I had such an experience of His love that I had to ask Him to stay His hand. I went to preaching again. The sermons were not different; I did not present any new truths, and yet hundreds were converted. I would not now be placed back where I was before that blessed experience if you should give me all the world — it would be as the small dust of the balance.
7. **Teaching of D L Moody:** There is no use in attempting to do God's work without God's power. A man working without this unction, a man working without this anointing, a man working without the Holy Ghost upon him, is losing time after all. We all need it [the filling of the Holy Spirit], and let us not rest day nor night until we possess it; if that is the uppermost thought in our hearts, God will give it to us if we just hunger and thirst for it

and say, ‘God helping me, I will not rest until endued with power from on high.’”

8. **Words of Jesus** Luke 11:9,10,13 Ask and you’ll receive. Seek and you’ll discover. Knock on heaven’s door, and it will one day open for you. Every persistent person will receive what he asks for. Every persistent seeker will discover what he needs. And everyone who knocks persistently will one day find an open door.
If imperfect parents know how to lovingly take care of their children and give them what they need, how much more will the perfect heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit’s fullness when his children ask him.”

C. HIS FACE- INTIMACY (Into-Me-See)

1. **Premise:** Man was created with the need and capacity for intimate relationships.
 - a. We need to see and be seen.
 - b. We need to know and be known.
 - c. We need to love and be loved.
2. **The pattern is set.**
Genesis 2:25 *And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.*
3. **The pattern is destroyed.**
Genesis 3:7-10 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings. ⁸ And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ Then the Lord God called to Adam and said to him, “Where *are* you?”

¹⁰ So he said, “I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself.”

4. **The pattern is being restored (Process of Restoration)**

2 Cor. 3:18 *But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.*

1 Cor. 13:12 *For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known.*