

BEYOND SUNDAY

FAITH: TRANSFORMED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

FEBRUARY 4, 2019

RECAP

Today we continue studying the five points of grace using the helpful acronym, FAITH, which stands for: Fallen Humanity, Adopted by God, Intentional Atonement, Transformed by the Holy Spirit, and Held By God. We now turn to Transformed by the Holy Spirit. 1 Corinthians 2:6-16 teaches us that the Holy Spirit applies the atoning work of Jesus Christ to us. It is the Holy Spirit who enables us to understand spiritual reality. The Holy Spirit works in our hearts, replacing our rebellious, stone hearts, with obedient new hearts of flesh. The Holy Spirit makes us receptive to God, giving us the gift of faith, and removing our spiritual blindness.

All this is part of the process of salvation, all of which is God's gracious work in us. Not only does God seek us first, he provides salvation through Jesus Christ, as well as the heart change necessary for our response. This grace saves us and creates in us a love for God and others.

God is like a loving Father, or a suitor who draws out of us true loving character and desire. He moves us to love what He loves, and to desire what He desires. The book of Hosea powerfully demonstrates God's loving faithfulness and commitment to us, people prone to wandering unfaithfulness. God's faithfulness produces faithfulness in us, just as it did in Hosea's wife, Gomer. The Holy Spirit produces faithful living in us, so that we desire and want to obediently produce spiritual fruit.

ICYMI: [Watch Sermon Online](#)

READINGS

Your right hand will hold me fast. Psalm 139:10b NIV

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1 Corinthians 2:6-16	Romans 5:1-11	Ezekiel 36:24-28	Acts 16:11-15	Ephesians 2:8-10	John 9:35-41	1 Corinthians 12:1-11

QUESTIONS TO THINK ABOUT AS YOU READ:

1. When a fat green caterpillar turns into a graceful monarch butterfly, we exclaim, "What a transformation!" How does the transforming work of the Holy Spirit differ from the metamorphoses we see in nature?
2. Why is transformation by the Holy Spirit necessary?
3. Although we don't know exactly how the Holy Spirit transforms people, we can see the effects. What are some of the effects of the transforming work of the Holy Spirit in people's lives?
4. Do you need to be transformed?

RESOURCES

Read the fourth main point of doctrine as explained in the [Canons of Dort](#).

*Note: You are encouraged to read the Canons as they were written. You may have noticed that the order is different from FAITH. To read the points in FAITH order, it would be 3, 1, 2, 4, 5.

MARANATHA CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

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