

## Overflow- Change Is Good

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We started a new series called overflow last week where we began to focus on the life of abundance that Christ has promised us.

\*\*\*John 10:10

“The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have *it* abundantly.

\*\*\*Life—Zoe - of the absolute fullness of life, life real and genuine, a life active and vigorous, devoted to God, blessed, in the portion even in this world of those who put their trust in Christ.

Last week God has us look at the concept of worry or anxiety and we looked at what Jesus taught about the subject in Matthew 6.

\*\*\*Matthew 6:33

But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Notice that it doesn't say seek only! Our first priority has to be seeking after the kingdom of God and His righteousness.

\*\*\*Now today, we are going to talk about what needs to change in order for us to see this life the Christ has brought to us manifested in our lives.

Now if I asked how many of you was living the zoe life, very few of you (if any) would raise their hand if you were honest. So obviously what we're doing right now isn't working.

If we are going to experience the life that Christ has for us, that zoe life, then change has to occur.

\*\*\*Romans 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

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A renewed mind results in a transformed life.

Before I get too far into this, I'm going to address something in a lot of you that needs to be addressed. When I get into what I believe needs to happen in you and make some of the suggestions that I'm going to make, many of you in here are going to say that it's too hard.

And you are going to default back to YOUR way of changing your life, and do you know what that is? Prayer. And it won't work, do know why?

Here's why. See these wire strippers? These have become one of my favorite tools, thanks to Tom Cramer and Mike Hohman. It's because of them that I rarely need an electrician to come out to my house now.

These strippers are great for stripping away the insulation on a 12 gauge wire. But what if I wanted to drill a hole in a piece of wood?

This is why many of you have become frustrated about prayer in your life and have come to the conclusion that prayer just doesn't work. It's because you're using the wrong tool for the job.

The bible doesn't say that "prayer" will set you free. It says that the "truth" will set you free.

In Matthew chapter 4 when Jesus battled temptation out in the desert, He didn't combat the lies of the devil with prayer, He did it with the truth.

For every temptation that you and I struggle with, and every area of life that we are trying to overcome, there is an inherent lie of the enemy associated with keeping us there and holding us back and if we don't counter that lie with the truth of God's word, change will NOT occur. We will be trying to drill a hole with a pair of wire strippers.

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\*\*\*Proverbs 4:20-23

20 My son, give attention to my words;

Incline your ear to my sayings.

21 Do not let them depart from your sight;

Keep them in the midst of your heart.

22 For they are life to those who find them

And health to all their body.

23 Watch over your heart with all diligence,

For from it flow the springs of life.

1. Listen to and Look at the word of God.
2. For the purpose of hiding it in your heart.
3. What you put in your heart comes out.
4. What comes out either produces life or doesn't

Say you struggle in your thought life. You find yourself constantly struggling with thinking about things you shouldn't.

\*\*\*2 Corinthians 10:3-5

3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh,

4 for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.

5 We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ,

\*\*\*Philippians 4:8 Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things.

What if you struggle with lying?

\*\*\*Colossians 3:9,10

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9 Do not lie to one another, since you laid aside the old self with its evil practices,  
10 and have put on the new self who is being renewed to a true knowledge  
according to the image of the One who created him