

Church Let's be Real

"If you want to see how something should be, get as close as you can to the original."

Key Churches & Components:

- From **Jerusalem** we learned to be **SIMPLE**
- From **Antioch** we learned to be **STRATEGIC**
- From **Thessalonica** we will learn to be **TRANSFORMATIONAL**

1 Thessalonians 1

They were known for all the right things:

- Their labor of love
- Their work of faith
- Their patience of hope in the Lord Jesus Christ
- The way they received and obeyed the Word of God.

For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe. 1 Thes. 2:13

- The way their lives were transformed
 - Their beliefs changed.
 - Their actions changed.
 - Their reputation changed.

At IBB we want to emulate the church at

Thessalonica by being **TRANSFORMATIONAL**.

From the life of Peter we've learned that **life transformation** is a process, triggered by various choices that lead us through stages of growth, maturity and transformation.

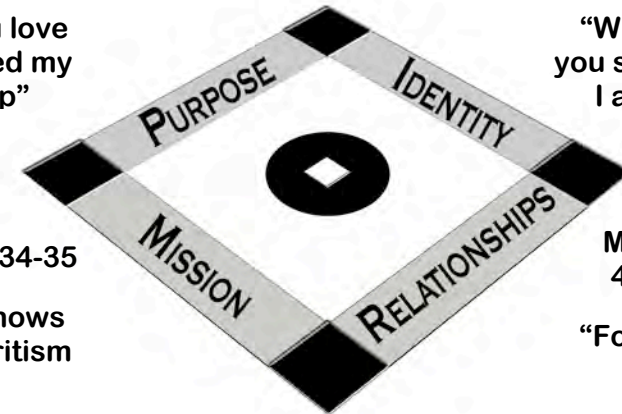
Peter was transformed along the journey, and we can be too!

John
21:15-17

"Do you love Me? Feed my sheep"

Matthew
16:13-17

"Who do you say that I am?"



Acts 10:34-35

"God shows no favoritism"

Matthew
4:18-20

"Follow Me"

Phase #1 – New Relationships

- We answer the call to follow Jesus
- We learn to relate with God and others

Phase #2 – New Identity

- We openly identify with Jesus through baptism
- We identify with His church through membership

Phase #3 – New Purpose

- We take ownership in what God is doing.
- We take spiritual responsibility for others.
- We shepherd a flock

Phase #4 – New Mission

- We open our world to everything in God's world.
- We develop a missionary heart

We believe life transformation and spiritual growth happen BEST in a SMALL GROUP environment.

CAUTION: Beware of "Used to Be" Syndrome

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- From **Antioch** we learned to be _____
- From **Thessalonica** we will learn to be _____

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- Their labor of _____
- Their work of _____
- Their patience of _____ in the Lord Jesus Christ
- The way they _____ and _____ the Word of God.

For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe. 1 Thes. 2:13

- The way their lives were _____
"...how you deserted the dead idols of your old life so you could embrace and serve God, the true God. (1 Thes. 1:9)
 - Their _____ changed.
 - Their _____ changed.
 - Their _____ changed.

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From the life of _____ we've learned that *life transformation* is a _____, triggered by various _____ that lead us through various stages of growth, maturity and transformation.

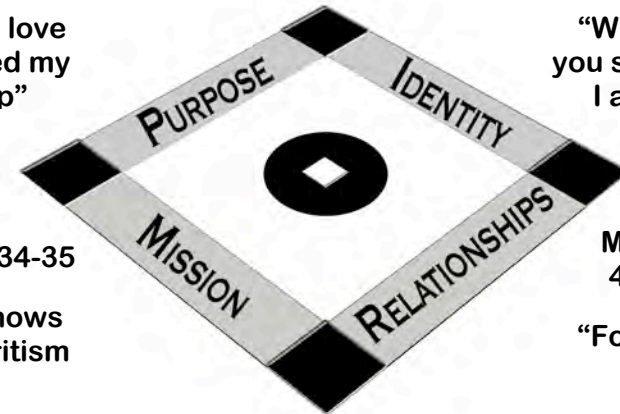
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Phase #1 – New Relationships

- We answer the call to _____
- We learn to relate with _____ and _____

Phase #2 – New Identity

- We _____ identify with Jesus through _____
- We identify with His church through _____

Phase #3 – New Purpose

- We take _____ in what God is doing.
- We take spiritual _____ for others.
- We _____ a _____

Phase #4 – New Mission

- We open _____ world to everything in _____ world.
- We develop a _____

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