

Changed, Changing

Colossians 2:6-23

Main Point - Everyone who accepts Jesus is changed and will continue to change.

Discussion Questions

What was the house like when the Edwards lived there? (almost falling down, needed painting, gardens full of weeds, window broken, doorbell broken).

The house began to change. What changed first? (the house stood up straight, it didn't lean anymore, it's foundations were fixed)

The house continued to change. What other changes happened? (it was painted, window was fixed, gardens mowed/cutback, doorbell fixed...)

Why did the Edwards house change so much? (the Edwards moved out and a new family moved in)

Who moves in and changes us? (Jesus, he changes us)

When we become a Christian we begin to change. Jesus changes us to be more like him. What changes does Jesus make in us? (loving, welcoming, truthful, sharing, forgiving, faithful, slow to get angry, pay back bad with good, kind, gentle, words that help not hurt).

Read the following verses and from these verses, find the ways Jesus changes people.

Colossians 1:21-22 International Children's Bible (ICB)

21 At one time you were separated from God. You were God's enemies in your minds because the evil deeds you did were against God. **22** But now Christ has made you God's friends again. He did this by his death while he was in the body, that he might bring you into God's presence. He brings you before God as people who are holy, with no wrong in you, and with nothing that God can judge you guilty of.

Colossians 2:13-14

13 You were spiritually dead because of your sins and because you were not free from the power of your sinful self. But God made you alive with Christ. And God forgave all our sins. **14** We owed a debt because we broke God's laws. That debt listed all the rules we failed to follow. But God forgave us that debt. He took away that debt and nailed it to the cross.

Colossians 3:9-10,12

9 Do not lie to each other. You have left your old sinful life and the things you did before. 10 You have begun to live the new life. In your new life you are being made new. You are becoming like the One who made you. This new life brings you the true knowledge of God....12 God has chosen you and made you his holy people. He loves you. So always do these things: Show mercy to others; be kind, humble, gentle, and patient.

(- Examples from these verses

- separated from God to being near to God
- enemies of God to being friends of God
- guilty of doing wrong to being innocent of doing wrong
- not forgiven to being forgiven
- dead to God to being alive to God
- slave to sin to being free from sin
- no knowledge of God to having true knowledge of God
- old to being new
- sinful life to having new life
- death to life
- from sinful to being holy)

Application

- Have you asked Jesus to change you?

Conclusion:

- We change when we become a Christian.
- And we continue to change.
- We never stop changing so we become more and more like Jesus.

Repeated Prayer

Father God, – thank you that because of Jesus – I am changed forever. – I am your child – and I am fully forgiven. – Please help me to continue to change – to be more and more like Jesus. – Amen

Activity

- Colour the picture of the little house that changed.
- Or, Provide building blocks for the children to build houses.
- Or, provide cardboard boxes to create houses using tape or if your boxes are big enough, build a cubby!