

Changing Who I Am
Power to Change, Part 1 of 2
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Romans 1:16-17 ESV

¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. ¹⁷ For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, “The righteous shall live by faith.”

What would you change in yourself if you could?

The Bad News: We Don’t Have the Power to Change

Ro 7:15–8:4 ESV

¹⁵ I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. ¹⁶ And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷ As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. ¹⁸ For I know that good itself does not dwell in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. ¹⁹ For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing. ²⁰ Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it.

²¹ So I find this law at work: Although I want to do good, evil is right there with me. ²² For in my inner being I delight in God’s law; ²³ but I see another law at work in me, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within me. ²⁴ What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death?

Some More Bad News: Even If We Did, That Wouldn’t Save Us

All Humans are...

- Dead in Adam, completely unresponsive to God (Romans 5:12 ESV)
- In rebellion to God, enemy combatants fighting against His Kingdom (Col 1:21 TLB)
- Spiritual orphans, without a Father, lost and alone in the world (Matt 7:9-11 ESV)

The Good News: Jesus Christ Can Save Us and Transform Us! Romans 7:25-8:4 ESV

When you are “In Christ Jesus” you are transformed...

From:

*Dead in Adam
Enemy of God
Spirit Orphan
Powerless*

To:

*Alive in Christ
Reconciled to God
Adopted Son and Daughter
Powerful*

What Must We Do To Be Saved In Christ?

- Repent, confess your sins, and believe the gospel (Acts 20:21; 1 John 1:8-9; Rom 10:9-10 NIV)

Next Steps

1. If you are not a Christian yet then repent, confess your sins, and receive Christ as Lord and Savior.
2. If you are a Christian, repent of any known sin, confess it to the Lord and/or anyone you've sinned against, and receive His forgiveness and power to change.
3. Read your Bible each day this week listening for God's commands and promises.