

**JOEL
2:13**

“Change
your **life**,
not just your clothes.
Come back to **God**,
your God.
And here's why:
God is **kind** and **merciful**.
He takes a deep breath,
Puts up with a lot,
this most **patient** God,
Extravagant in
love... “

Change12 is a vision turn into a strategy of bringing change to twelve lives that will bring change to others; one person at a time, for only a changed person can change others.

I believe that every leader must know how to transform their vision into strategic plan and action.
By equipping them to do the ministry in personal evangelism, in personal consolidation, and in personal discipleship.
We are raising-up effective leaders to bring in a great harvest but most importantly on how to preserve the harvest.
The success and growth of any churches, small groups and campus ministries is determined not just on the harvest but on the preservation of the harvest.

This is what this booklet is all about.
It's a personal Winning and Consolidation guide to help bring change to people's lives; connecting them to a small group, make them disciples of Jesus Christ and giving them the opportunity to encounter God in a way that they have never experienced before.

This is what I call GREAT COMMISSION!

JOEL MONTES
Davao, Philippines, 2014

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CHANGE DESTINATION

SALVATION

John 3:16 NIV

For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.

This verse tells us about God's Eternal Plan and you are included in it. Yes! God has a wonderful plan for you, He knows your hopes, dreams and all the desires of your heart because He is the one who placed it there.

The bible also tells us that... God has placed eternity in the hearts of man (Ecclesiastis 3:11). Meaning, that we are an eternal being, and that the things that can truly satisfy us are not temporal but things that has an eternal value. By knowing God's Eternal Plan for us is what brings real satisfaction.

There are four things that we need to know about Gods Eternal Plan.

WE HAVE A DESTINATION - Either to Perish or Have Eternal Life

Everyone has its own view of what life is, but the truth is, life is a journey that one day we are all going to reach our final destination - Eternity. The Bible is clear that we only have two destinations when our journey of life is over, we are either going to perish in hell or have eternal life in heaven.

Which destination are you going?

WE HAVE SINNED - The Sinful World

The problem is even though we want to go to heaven we cannot, because all of us have sinned. Sin separates us from God and men have tried everything to be connected back to God but we always fall short.

Romans 3:23 NIV

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

What Sin does? It hurts us, our family and most of all, it hurts God. The worst is, Sin is punishable by eternal death-to perish in hell.

Romans 6:23 GW

The payment for sin is death, but the gift that God freely gives is everlasting life found in Christ Jesus our Lord.

JESUS OUR SAVIOR - God's One and Only Son

He is the only solution so we can change our destination from perish to eternal life. For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son. Jesus took our place, became the sacrifice and died on the cross for our sin so we can be restored back to God.

Romans 5:8-10 NLT

But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. And since we have been made right in God's sight by the blood of Christ, He will certainly save us from God's condemnation. For since our friendship with God was restored by the death of his Son while we were still His enemies, we will certainly be saved through the life of His Son.

FAITH IN JESUS - Believe

Jesus promise us that whoever believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life. We can receive God's gift of salvation by placing our faith in what Jesus has done on the cross for us. To believe is to trust Jesus.

Ephesians 2:8-9 NIV

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.

PERSONAL APPLICATION

- Now are you willing to surrender your sins before God and put your faith in Jesus alone for salvation? (Prayer of Salvation)
- Have you believed and confessed Jesus as your Lord and Master of your life?
- Are you willing to obey and follow Him for the rest of your life?

PRAYER OF SALVATION

Heavenly Father... I acknowledge that because of my sins I am separated from you... I am sorry for my sins... and I ask you to forgive and cleanse me... I thank You that You sent Your Son, Jesus... to pay the penalty for my sins... Jesus I ask you to come into my heart be my Lord and Savior... I believe that you died on the cross for me... I believe that you have risen from the dead, now by faith I receive your gift of eternal life. Thank you for loving and accepting me. help me to love, serve, and obey You... for the rest of my life... in Jesus name... Amen!

CHANGE DIRECTION

REPENTANCE

John 14:6 (NIV)

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

It's amazing to know that God is a God of second chance.

The moment you made a decision to receive God's gift of eternal life through Christ Jesus, your destination was changed, from perish to eternal life. Now that you have a changed destination, you must also have a change direction.

Is your direction now, leading you to your destination?

THE WAY

Walking in a wrong direction will take you somewhere but not to where you want to be, and it leads to frustration, doubt and fear. This is also true with our spiritual lives. A step in a wrong direction is a step away from God.

The problem with lost people is that they don't know that they are lost, they have no idea that every step they're taking is getting closer to destruction, unless they turn around (repent) and begin to follow Jesus.

Acts 3:19

Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord.

Repentance is turning away from your sins and turn back to God.

Jesus declares that He is the only way, so we can return back to God. When we decide to follow His ways, it is a sure thing that we won't get lost again.

THE TRUTH

Sometimes we are in bondage with so many lies of regrets and condemnation, saying that "I can no longer change, I cannot experience freedom and I will not be forgiven." Remember this; the enemy will only have power in your life if you listen to his lies. The truth is...

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Forgiveness and justification are received if we confess our sins. It takes a humble heart and surrendered life to produce true repentance.

True repentance (Godly Sorrow) is a personal decision of taking full responsibility and acknowledging that you have hurt God because of your sin.

On the other hand there is also false repentance (Worldly Sorrow) It's feeling sorry because they are caught but not taking full responsibility, passing blame to others, always self-centered – seeing themselves hurt instead of God because of sin.

2 Corinthians 7:10

Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death.

The difference between the two is the result.

True repentance (Godly Sorrow) produces salvation and no regrets. A false repentance (Worldly Sorrow) brings spiritual death and doesn't result to change lives.

The truth is when we follow Jesus He will bring conviction not condemnation that will lead us to true repentance and change direction.

THE LIFE

Making Jesus as your new direction leads to fullness of Life.

He will take you to places you have never been before. It's going to be the most exciting journey of your life. Enjoying every step of the way to where you are going and not worrying of being in a wrong direction.

John 10:10 GNT

The thief comes only in order to steal, kill, and destroy. I have come in order that you might have life— life in all its fullness.

PERSONAL APPLICATION

- Is your life going in a new direction?
- Are there things in your life that you need to turn away from and turn back to God?
- Are there weaknesses, sins and struggles that you have surrendered but still felt condemned and need prayer to be released?

CHANGE HEART

FORGIVENESS

Ezekiel 36:26 NLT

And I will give you a new heart, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony, stubborn heart and give you a tender, responsive heart.

How is your Heart?

To know the condition of our heart is very important, our heart is the source of our life, (Proverbs 4:23 NLT) it determines the course of life we are to live. If our heart is affected then everything around us are affected. You may have suffered a lot in your life but God is so gracious that He promise as a Change Heart if we trust in Him.

GOD FORGAVE US AND GAVE US NEW HEART AND NEW SPIRIT

You can know that you are unconditionally loved no matter what is going on in your life, whether you are accepted or rejected by others, you can know that God has completely accepted, loved and forgiven you.

The more you understand His forgiveness, the more you'll see your heart changed. Forgiveness is getting what we don't deserve. There's no sin too great for God to forgive, there's no wound too deep for God to heal.

Mark 3:28 NLT

"I tell you the truth, all sin and blasphemy can be forgiven."

The only sin God can't forgive, is the one you won't take to Him! So take your broken heart to God because He alone can give you a new heart.

WE FORGIVE OTHERS SO GOD CAN TAKE AWAY OUR STONY AND STUBBORN HEART

We are forgiven to forgive and it starts by letting go of the person who has hurt us the most. You may say it's unfair! You're right. Forgiveness isn't fair. It wasn't fair when God forgave you, and it's unfair for you to forgive someone else. God doesn't give us what we deserve, He gives us what we need.

The Bible says God is just. One day He'll settle the score. In the meantime, we must let God fill our hearts with peace and grace.

Romans 12:19 (TLB), "Never avenge yourselves. Leave that to God, for He has said that He will repay those who deserve it."

The first step to forgiveness is to commit not to take justice into your own hands. Let go and Let God.

The truth is forgiveness is not for them it's for us. We are the ones who suffer most when we choose not to forgive but when we do forgive, the Lord sets our hearts free from the anger, bitterness, resentment and hurt that previously imprisoned us.

When you forgive, you set a prisoner free, but you discover that the real prisoner is yourself.

Would you allow the Lord to take away your stony and stubborn heart and give you a new heart today?

FORGIVE YOURSELF AND RECEIVE A TENDER AND RESPONSIVE HEART

There is one more person you need to forgive and I believe is the most important one, that's YOU!

Sometimes your own self is the hardest to forgive, you can't easily let go of the past and you live in pain and regret. If you do this, you will lose your self worth and will have a wrong image of yourself. You will have a hardtime trusting people, trusting yourself and above all trusting God. Who you are is affected on the condition of your heart.

Proverbs 23:7 *As a man thinks in his heart so is he...*

But you can change all that, by reversing the way you see yourself and start seeing the way God sees you. If God has forgiven you, you must start forgiving yourself. You are not greater than God that you cannot forgive yourself.

Forgiving yourself brings healing to your self-image and changes your heart into a tender and responsive heart to follow His will.

PERSONAL APPLICATION

- Have you received God's forgiveness in your life?
- Are there pains in your heart that were caused by people or yourself that you are carrying right now?
- Do you want to be free and release a prayer of forgiveness to them and to yourself?

CHANGE RELATIONSHIP

LORDSHIP

Colossians 2:6-7

And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow Him. Let your roots grow down into Him, and let your lives be built on Him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness.

A lot of people only see Jesus as religion but never experienced a personal relationship with Him. I believe it's about time to change; It's time to change religion into relation, because Jesus is not interested in our religion, He is interested of our relationship with Him.

The moment you accepted Jesus as your personal Lord and Savior, you begun a relationship that will continue to last forever.

How's your Relationship with God?

BE ROOTED – LORDSHIP IS MAKING HIM NUMBER ONE

In order to continue following Jesus you must let your roots grow down into Him by acknowledging His Lordship over your lives. Like a tree that depends its life on the roots, so as salvation begins by confessing that Jesus is Lord.

Romans 10:9

That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

Lordship simply means "Number One". Confessing Him as your Lord is making Him the number one and top priority of your life. It's all about coming into a complete surrender and security that He knows what's best for you.

A tree without roots is a tree without life. Jesus must become root of our life, for without Him we are nothing.

BE BUILT ON HIM – LORDSHIP IS LIVING A LIFE OF OBEDIENCE

Salvation is what Christ has done for us but Lordship is what we can do for Him. Apostle Paul taught us that the next thing we must do is to let your lives be built on Him. We can do this by living a life of obedience to His word.

Matthew 7:24 (NIV)

"Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

Lordship demands our obedience, Christ must be the supreme authority of our lives to the point that it's not our will but His will be done. As we do this we are building our lives on unshakeable foundation, no storms and waves of this life can destroy us because we are founded on the solid rock.

BE FAITHFUL- HIS LORDSHIP IN YOUR LIFE WILL BE TESTED, STAY FAITHFUL

When we follow God's will, it comes with being faithful (then your faith will grow strong in the truth v.7b)... our faith will always be tested. Temptation & distractions may come but when you know who the ruler of your life is, it's easy to stay faithful. It's easy to know that this is just a test. If you know that you belong to God you will have confidence that He knows what's best and will remain faithful to Him.

Psalm 18:25a (NLT) To the faithful you show yourself faithful;

But if you don't stay faithful and follow the distraction, that path will lead you to a world of fear and unbelief. All because you have allowed something else to rule you. In doing that, you are not living God's will for your life and you will not reap the benefits of His blessings.

Proverbs 28:28 (PE)

Many are the blessings of a faithful man and an evil one will not be spared in His evil.

Blessings are waiting for the faithful ones and it can be yours too.

BE THANKFUL – LORDSHIP STARTS FROM OUR THANKFUL HEART

Lordship can bring us a sense of security and joy that will result to (overflow with thankfulness v.7b). This is the difference between religion and relationship. We follow Jesus, not because we have to but because we want to. It's willingness of the heart and not about following a set of religious rules and traditions; it's a personal thing that starts from our thankful heart.

Psalm 86:12

I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart, and I will glorify your name forever.

Serving God is never boring; it's full of fun and surprises. The greatest decision you have made in life is the time you have fully surrendered and submitted to His Lordship.

PERSONAL APPLICATION

- Are there areas in your life that you need to submit to His Lordship?
- Are you willing to make Him the number one in your life?
- If given an opportunity to serve Him, will you be willing?

CHANGE LIFESTYLE

DISCIPLESHIP

Acts 2:42 NLT

All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals and to prayer.

God is excited about His wonderful plan for your life. But before you can experience that there should be a change in us. In the Bible Jesus chose ordinary men and changed them into world changers.

How exciting it is to know that God's plan is not just to change us but to change others through us – Changed to Change others!

Change requires devotion. As the early believers devoted themselves to Prayer, Sharing, Fellowship, and Teaching, making these as their lifestyle it resulted to changed lives and changing the world.

God will use these four things to develop us by changing our lifestyle.

DEVOTIONAL LIFE - Prayer

Just as good friends talk to each other, so God your heavenly Father, wants you to talk with Him. And while you may not understand it right now, you'll find that He "talks" to you through His word - the Bible.

You can pray to God about anything and everything. He wants to hear from you.

Philippians 4:6

Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank Him for all He has done.

Pick a time of the day where you can just be with God in prayer and reading His Word. You will discover how He loves you so much and His plans and purpose for your life.

LIFE GROUP - Sharing

God doesn't want us to take this journey of life alone that is why He gives us family and friends to be there for us.

Life Group is your spiritual family where you can receive encouragement, acceptance and love. Just like family, there is someone that will become your spiritual parents to give you care, guidance and would bring out the best in you.

CHURCH- Fellowship

Church is not a building as we think it is, but the Bible tells us that it's a group of people that loves God. Church is not a place you go to but a family you belong to. You belong to this greatest family when you became a Christian; you have joined a family- sometimes called "the body of Christ," which means you are now "related" to Christians all over the world!

You need to join a portion of that family by beginning to attend a local church. You need a church to help you continue to grow and for you to fulfill your purpose in life.

Hebrews 10:25

And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of His return is drawing near.

EQUIPPING- Teaching

Finally, we need to be trained and equipped for us to become effective on what God wants us to do.

God wants to use you to change many lives but He has to start that change within you. Because if you change everything changes. He wants to bring out the best in you by allowing you to go through the equipping process.

In this process you will experience fire, freedom and focus! You will encounter God in a way that you have never experienced before.

Encounter is a 3 days retreat that will lead you to discover everything that God has for you.

There is so much in you that you need to discover, if you would allow God and me to help you, it would be my greatest joy to accept you as one of my disciples.

PERSONAL APPLICATION

- Would you allow me to teach you how to establish your prayer life?
- Would you be willing to be part of a life group?
- Would you be willing to join the retreat in the next schedule?

This abstract geometric artwork features a series of overlapping, translucent, polygonal shapes. The composition is dominated by cool tones, including various shades of blue, green, and teal, which are layered to create a sense of depth and movement. At the bottom, a solid, vibrant red shape provides a strong contrast to the cooler colors above it. The overall effect is a dynamic, layered geometric landscape.

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