

# Transformed 1

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**Luke 5:1-11 (NIV)** - <sup>1</sup> One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret, the people were crowding around him and listening to the word of God. <sup>2</sup> He saw at the water's edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets. <sup>3</sup> He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from shore. Then he sat down and taught the people from the boat. <sup>4</sup> When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch." <sup>5</sup> Simon answered, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets." <sup>6</sup> When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. <sup>7</sup> So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink. <sup>8</sup> When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!" <sup>9</sup> For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken, <sup>10</sup> and so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon's partners. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will fish for people." <sup>11</sup> So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him. Jesus did not just change the way they did business. He changed their entire life purpose to the point that they left everything they knew to follow him.

Why aren't most Christians being transformed to this level? The answer: most Christians are completely malnourished in their spiritual development.

A malnourished spirit, like a malnourished body, experiences stunted growth. A person with a poorly developed spirit is more at risk for losing their focus and their purpose in life. They lack the ability to use the Word of God to approach life's challenges and tend to get stuck.

Our children are a clear example of this. They are physically, socially and academically nourished, but literally starving spiritually.

**Hebrews 5:11-14/6:1-2 (Message/NIV)** - <sup>11-14</sup> I have a lot more to say about this, but it is hard to get it across to you since you've picked up this bad habit of not listening. By this time you ought to be teachers yourselves, yet here I find you need someone to sit down with you and go over the basics on God again, starting from square one—baby's milk, when you should have been on solid food long ago! Milk is for beginners,

inexperienced in God's ways; solid food is for the mature, who have some practice in telling right from wrong.

<sup>6</sup> Therefore let us move beyond the elementary teachings about Christ and be taken forward to maturity, not laying again the foundation of repentance from acts that lead to death,[a] and of faith in God, <sup>2</sup> instruction about cleansing rites,[b] the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment.

**Romans 12:1-2 (NIV)** - <sup>12</sup> Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. <sup>2</sup> Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Three questions to ask yourself:

- What is God saying to me?
- What is my next step?
- Who can God use me to lead to Christ or impact for Him?