



Week 2: Forward Movement

GET GOING

Note: For the discussion tonight, you'll need enough pieces of scrap paper and writing instruments for everyone in your group.

What we see when we look in the mirror can surprise and discourage us. But, no matter what we see: "The Me I See, Isn't the Me I Have to Be." So how do we become the better versions of ourselves? Becoming "The Me I Want to Be" isn't easy but it is possible. And it all starts with turning good intentions into good investments.

DISCUSS

1. **Have you ever tried doing something alone that you should have tried with help?**
2. Trying to change is hard. But it's not impossible. **Read Philippians 2:12-16. When it comes to growing, what is our part?** (Answer: to work out or to continue obeying over a long period of time). **What is God's part?** (Answer: God powers the change and God actually changes us). **How does this truth change how you approach growing in your own life?**
3. **Using a scrap of paper, jot down three major turning points in your life** (A Turning Point is an event or season after which your life was clearly changed). **In his message, Mark went over Five Faith Catalysts. They are: Practical Teaching (of the Bible), Providential Relationships, Personal Disciplines, Personal Ministry, and Pivotal Circumstances. When you look at your list, which catalyst has God used the most in your life?**
4. Who we hope to be one day is the result of continued investments over time. **If someone was just starting to do private devotions, like Bible reading, what advice would you give them for starting out? Where do you imagine they would end up in five years?** (Note: the point here is show that it just makes sense to start with small steps and not expect ourselves to "arrive" right away).
5. **Do you give yourself the same grace or do you expect to see the end result too early? What happens if you expect too much too soon?**
6. **Using your scrap sheet of paper again, write out three things you want to be true of you in five years.**

7. **If you're willing, share one of those three things with the group. Take some time to brainstorm what *starting* out could look like in that area.** (Hint: think baby steps that increase over time).

WRAP IT UP

Growth is the result of good investments, not good intentions. Spend some time this week talking to the people closest to you about the one area you would like to start (or increase) making investments. And remember this: you are never alone on the journey because God will never give up working in you (Philippians 1:6).