



THE POWER OF c·h·a·n·g·e

THE POWER OF C-H-A-N-G-E Part C – Connects with God & His Family John 3:1-18

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I. CONNECTING WITH GOD BEGINS WITH TRUSTING IN **CHRIST ALONE** FOR YOUR SALVATION. (John 3:1-18)

A. Our physical birth brings us into this world and our spiritual birth changes the way we live this life and our **eternal destination**.

John 10:10 (NJB) "I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full." (Jesus)

*John 3:16-18 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever **believes** in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him. ¹⁸ Whoever believes in Jesus is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's only Son."*

B. How do we become born again?

1. Recognize that we have **sinned**. (Romans 3:23)
2. Recognize that sin has separated us from God. (Romans 6:23)
3. Recognize that Jesus died on the cross to pay the **penalty** for our sin. (Romans 5:8)

4. Recognize that Jesus rose from the grave and now offers forgiveness for our sin through repentance and faith in Him.

Romans 10:9 “If you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved;”

5. Make the decision to accept Jesus Christ by faith into our life.

II. WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE RECEIVE CHRIST?

A. Our Sins are Forgiven.

Colossians 1:13-14 (NLT) “For He has rescued us from the one who rules in the kingdom of darkness, and He has brought us into the Kingdom of His dear Son. ¹⁴ God has purchased our freedom with Christ’s blood and has forgiven all our sins.”

B. We become a Member of God’s Family.

John 1:12 (NIV) “To all who received Christ, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God...”

C. God’s Spirit comes into our life to help us live life abundantly.

Ephesians 1:13 (NLT) “And now you also have heard the truth, the Good News that God saves you. And when you believed in Christ, He identified you as his own by giving you the Holy Spirit, whom he promised long ago.”

D. We have direct access into God’s Presence through Prayer.

Philippians 4:6-7 (NIV) “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

E. Heaven becomes our Final Destination.

John 5:24 (NIV) “I tell you the truth, whoever hears My word and believes Him who sent Me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life.” (Jesus)

III. CONNECTING WITH GOD’S FAMILY THROUGH **BAPTISM** IS THE NEXT STEP TO SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT.

A. Baptism, immediately following your decision to receive Him as Savior, was **Jesus’** idea.

Matthew 28:19-20 (NIV) “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” (Jesus)

B. Baptism is Jesus’ way of us **identifying** with Him.

Romans 6:3-4 (NIV) “Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.”

IV. CONNECTING WITH GOD’S FAMILY THROUGH **FELLOWSHIP** IS VITAL TO ONGOING PERSONAL GROWTH.

God never intended for us to be **alone**.

Acts 2:42 (NIV) “They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching (Bible) and to the fellowship (being with each other), to the breaking of bread (Lord’s Supper) and to prayer.”

Hebrews 10:25 (NIV) “Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another--and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”

V. THE BIBLE TELLS US THAT **CHANGE** IS NOW GOD’S GOAL FOR US.

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Notes:
