

# THE CHANGE OF LIFE

TIM PARSONS, LEAD PASTOR



# Week 4: The Change of Life

Regeneration



DAY 1  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

---

Leo Tolstoy, in his great epic *War and Peace*, lists the following stages of life:

**BIRTH**  
**CHILDHOOD**  
**ADOLESCENCE**  
**ADULTHOOD**  
**OLD AGE**

---

What are some different stages of life?

Chances are, you've lived through several of these life stages.

What do you remember about each?

Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Childhood: \_\_\_\_\_

Adolescence: \_\_\_\_\_

Adulthood: \_\_\_\_\_

Old Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Death \_\_\_\_\_

What causes us to move from one stage to another?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

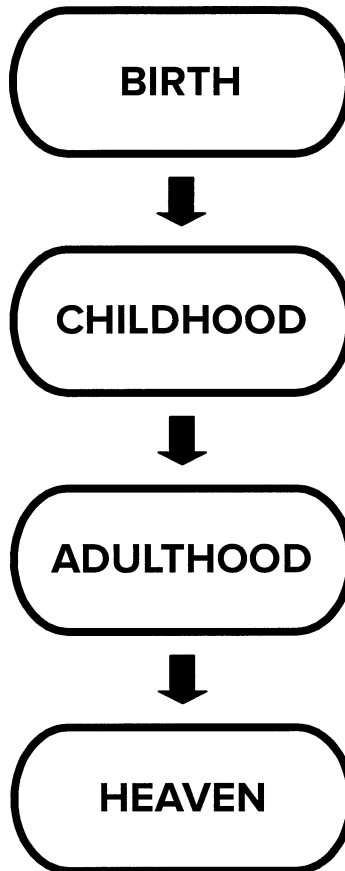
How are the stages similar?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

How are they different?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What about spiritual stages of life?



Read John 3:1-7. Where does the spiritual life begin?

---

---

How does spiritual birth happen? What do you remember about your spiritual "birth day"?

---

---

---

---

# CHILDHOOD

DAY 2  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

Read 1 Peter 2:1-3. In what ways do you feel like a new spiritual baby?

---

---

---

What should you long for? What will make you grow up?

---

---

---

In what ways have you tasted the kindness of the Lord?

---

---

---

# ADULTHOOD

Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-13. Focus on verse 11. How do children act? How is that different from how adults act?

---

---

---

What do you think growing up *spiritually* looks like?

---

---

---

What changes do you think God wants to make in your life?

---

---

---

# HEAVEN

DAY 3 Why is heaven the final stage for believers in Jesus?

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

---

---

---

Read 1 Corinthians 15:51-58. Why does death lose its' sting for a believer in Jesus?

---

---

---

Let's read how the Bible describes heaven. Check out Revelation 21:22-27 and 22:1-5. Take a few minutes and record every detail you can about what heaven will be like for us:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

What does Paul say about the beauty of heaven versus the struggles we have here on earth in Romans 8:18?

---

---

---

DAY 4  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

Look back over each of the stages we talked about for the last few days. Which stage do you think you are in? Why?

---

---

---

How long do you think you have been in that stage?

---

---

What do you think it would take for you to move on to the next stage?

---

---

---

Read Ephesians 4:11-15. What tools does God use to “grow us up” in our faith?

---

---

---

How does my life change when I meet Jesus? Read each of these Biblical examples and discuss your findings:

Acts 19:1-31

---

---

Luke 19:1-10

---

---

John 11:1-34

---

---

Luke 24:13-32

---

---

---

**LIFESTYLE: A PERSON'S OR GROUP'S  
CHARACTERISTIC MANNER OF LIVING;  
ONE'S STYLE OF LIFE.**

---

DAY 5 How has your lifestyle changed since you've met Jesus?

(Date)

---

---

---

How do you live now that is different from others around you?

---

---

---

Review the verses we have based this book on—2 Corinthians 5:14-17. What brings about the change in us? (v. 14-15)

---

---

---

How do verses 16-17 describe the change of life?

---

---

---

---

---

---

DAY 6

(Date)

---

## REGENERATION: THE REBIRTH OF THE SPIRIT

---

Consider the following story:

*A raw countryman brought his gun to the gunsmith for repairs. The gunsmith examined it and found it almost too far gone for repairing. He said, "Your gun is in a very worn out, ruinous, good-for-nothing condition, what sort of repairing do you want for it?"*

*"Well," said the countryman, "I don't see as I can do with anything short of a new stock, lock and barrel. That ought to set it up again."*

*"Why," said the smith, "you might just as well have a new gun altogether."*

*"Ah!" was the reply. "I never thought of that, and it strikes that's just what I do want. A new lock, stock, and barrel. That's about equal to a new gun, and that's what I'll have."*

*Man's nature requires just this sort of repairing. The old nature cast aside as a complete wreck and good for nothing, and a new one imparted.*

Charles Haddon Spurgeon



Read Matthew 4:18-20. What are the events recorded in this story?

---

---

---

---

What do you think of these men and their response to Jesus?

---

---

---

---

Jesus is *still* calling people to drop everything and follow Him!

---

Do you know anyone who has given their life to follow Jesus like that? Tell about them.

---

---

---

Do you know anyone who has answered the call of Jesus for full-time service (to minister as their vocation)? Tell about them.

---

---

---

What do you know about them? Do they seem happy? Fulfilled?

---

---

---

Do you think following Jesus in that way would be a change of life? How so?

---

---

---

---

Have you ever sensed that God may be calling *you* to follow Him in full-time service? How so?

---

---

---

Would you be willing if God called? Why or why not?

---

---

---

DAY 7

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

### Asking the hard questions...

Reflect on this week and answer the following questions:

Which spiritual stage of life are you in?

---

---

How long have you been there?

---

---

What would it take for you to move to the next stage?

---

---

---

In what ways has your lifestyle changed or been regenerated?

---

---

---

Have you ever felt like God might be calling you to serve Him in full-time ministry?

---

---

---

Are you willing?

---

---

---

