

IMAGINE . . . TRANSFORMED

January 25, 2009

Along the continuum of spiritual growth, perhaps the hardest step to take is the one from intermediate or growing Christian to Christ-centered Christian. This message encourages us to take hold of the promise of Romans 8:31. Integrate this spiritual reality into every situation of daily life. Being willing to give up our self-centered programs and getting on God's program will likely mean a little inner turmoil, but getting on God's plan will fill the void of anything that we have to give up and He will always be there in support along the way.

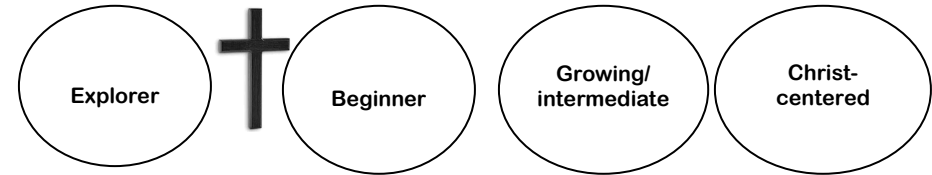
Mission Statement: To be enabled through Christ, transformed daily by the Father, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, to faithfully live and communicate His heart in our community and throughout the world.

Romans 8:38-39 (NIV) ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Not even the following separates us:

- sin
- weak prayer life
- fear of abandonment
- trouble

Memory Verse: Romans 8:31 (NIV) ³¹ What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us?



God is for us, but this can be taken to extreme - so that we can view God as our servant to fulfill our self serving dreams.

To move beyond growing/intermediate to Christ-centered requires consideration of:

Acts 20:24 (NCV) ²⁴ I don't care about my own life.

. . . The most important thing is that I complete my mission, the work that the Lord Jesus gave me—

. . . to tell people the Good News about God's grace.

Philippians 1:21 (NIV) ²¹ For to me, to live is . . . Christ . . . and to die is gain.

What would it take for me – where would it require surrender – what decision must I make now – to move to the Christ – centered position?