

# COMPELLED to Treasure Transformation in my life

1 Chronicles 29:1-22a

**MPS:** Christians live compelled by God's love to treasure gospel transformation that honors Jesus.

**OBJ:** Every person can understand how God's people treasure transformation by five demonstrations.

**INTRO** We are in a series entitled COMPELLED, considering God's love for us that grows a life of full devotion to live for Him. Compelled means that we "live as we've been loved." [A life of full devotion is COMPELLED to live SENT.](#)

The letters of the word SENT form an acrostic of four life postures to which the love of God compels our life. We've considered that God's love compels us to Surrender our lives, Expend our lives and iNvest our lives. Today we conclude that God's redeeming love compels us to treasure transformation with our lives.

[Christians live compelled by God's love to treasure gospel transformation that honor Jesus.](#)

**TRANS** I need to begin by clarify our understanding of "transformation".

**Christians are saved by God's grace through faith in the atoning sacrifice of Jesus Christ.** When we believe in Jesus, our sins are forgiven, we are cleansed and receive new life. This is not a better or improved version of self, but we are made a new creation. We receive a new heart to know God by Holy Spirit's abiding presence in us. Instantly we are dead made alive; old gone away and new put in. We die with Christ in His crucifixion for us and now live in the completely, though not yet ultimately final, new of His resurrection power in us. [The new life Christ gives transforms us from the inside out.](#)

We love to talk about transformation in the church, but sometimes I wonder, because of the casual nature with which we treat it, how well we really understand what it is. Simple, outward changes can be a part of transformation, but they are never the sum total of it. Biblical transformation is not simply an outward change, but the birth of that which is new within us. [Rom12:2 Biblical transformation is the process of sanctification, an immediately complete reality that takes the rest of our life to fully discover, and is as much a part of salvation in Jesus as the moment of our justification or the eternal hope of our glorification.](#)

We reduce transformation to an unbiblical concept when we believe that it is only or primarily outward changes that we can produce, OR that it does not necessarily produce outward change. Every outward change that reflects only another form of sin and idolatry is not gospel transformation. [True transformation only occurs by God birthing new life within us through the gospel of Jesus Christ to live in us by His Spirit and shape us through our natural bodies into our new creation by His redeeming power.](#)

**Transformation begins by conversion.** Conversion assigns worth to new values so that through worship our life becomes formed by what those values produce within, in our thinking, attitudes, and actions. Feelings are shaped by worship to, but serve more as a thermometer to measure the extent of that which we truly value. When we convert to Jesus, we value His Lordship in our life that He won by His atoning sacrifice. Then as we value, or worship, Jesus as highest and worthiest of all, the truth of God's Word through gospel shapes our life from the center of our new being, where Holy Spirit lives, to renew all of life.

**You can't say you value one thing and live without that value being first in all.** Transformation is not measured in a single decision, but it's outward production is determined by them when we exalt Jesus above all else in every area of life through every decision of life. When Jesus is most highly valued in our life, we will honor Him above all by seeking His Kingdom reign first in all. [Transformation anoints Jesus as worthy of all honor, praise and glory through all of life.](#)

**TRANS** But knowing what transformation is doesn't mean we treasure it. Sometimes we fight and resist it. **How, then, do we treasure transformation?** We treasure transformation by making sure every decision, attitude and action exalts Jesus as first in every area of life to cultivate the redeeming work of God's love within us.

Christians live compelled by God's love to treasure gospel transformation that honors Jesus.

## READ 1 Chronicles 29:1-5

And David the king said to all the assembly, "Solomon my son, whom alone God has chosen, is young and inexperienced, and the work is great, for the palace will not be for man but for the LORD God. <sup>2</sup>So I have provided for the house of my God, so far as I was able, the gold for the things of gold, the silver for the things of silver, and the bronze for the things of bronze, the iron for the things of iron, and wood for the things of wood, besides great quantities of onyx and stones for setting, antimony, colored stones, all sorts of precious stones and marble. <sup>3</sup>Moreover, in addition to all that I have provided for the holy house, I have a treasure of my own of gold and silver, and because of my devotion to the house of my God I give it to the house of my God: <sup>4</sup>3,000 talents of gold, of the gold of Ophir, and 7,000 talents of refined silver, for overlaying the walls of the house, <sup>5</sup>and for all the work to be done by craftsmen, gold for the things of gold and silver for the things of silver. Who then will offer willingly, consecrating himself today to the LORD?" **1 Chronicles 29:1-5**

King David prepares to hand over the reigns of the Kingdom to His son, Solomon. And the first commission he will give Him is what he has prepared his entire reign, to build a Temple for the Lord. These first verses tell us that David valued God's work in the way he led as King and in the way he lived his own life. King David's reputation and war trophies were not most important to Him. [David leveraged the legacy of his life and leadership as King on this, that the people would follow Him to offer one, united offering to honor the Lord.](#)

**OBJ:** Five demonstrations that reveal how God's people treasure the transformation to honor Jesus.

### 1. We treasure transformation when we consecrate our life through offering to God. 29:5

David doesn't make a symbolic gesture. He consecrates his life and leadership by giving an offering from the treasury of his kingdom and his life. [David testifies by the display of his offering that God is worthy of all.](#)

Few of the things we accomplish in this life will last for eternity, but that doesn't make them unimportant. The Bible teaches that the way we invest and what we produce in this life, though it will not go with us to eternity, can produce eternal benefits now. [Matt5:16;2Cor9:12](#) Christians consecrate themselves to Jesus by stewarding all of life with an eternal perspective. [Honoring God with temporary treasures invests them to make an eternal impact.](#)

**ILLUS Alabaster jar of oil.** (Matthew 26:6-13) The woman in Matthew broke a jar of oil to anoint Jesus' feet. We know it was very expensive because the disciples condemned her for using such expensive oil for such a small action. But Jesus celebrates her offering as an honor to Him.

[We consecrate our lives to glorify God and serve His mission when we use the treasures of this life to honor Jesus.](#)

**TRANS** Giving an expensive offering in the name of Jesus as worship has a way of reproducing the same effect in others.

### 2. Treasuring transformation uses our consecration to influence others to honor the Lord. 29:6

*<sup>6</sup>Then the leaders of fathers' houses made their freewill offerings, as did also the leaders of the tribes, the commanders of thousands and of hundreds, and the officers over the king's work.*

Immediately after King David, all the leaders among the people followed by giving their offering. Leaders must be vested in the mission before they can lead others. Their participation demonstrates this. They gave their offering not just because David did, but because God was working in their lives too. Someone else's offering never satisfies our heart to honor God's work in us. [Christ-followers honor the Lord to consecrate their lives to His work and witness of it to others.](#)

Our first consecration to the Lord, our conversion through Jesus Christ, sets influence as the aim of our whole life. [Christians live as faithful witnesses to the worthiness of Jesus by the way we bring our whole life under His Lordship.](#)

**TRANS** The influence of treasured transformation is immediately recognized among all the people.

### 3. Treasuring transformation occurs when we rejoice in the Lord with our whole heart. 29:9

*Then the people rejoiced because they had given willingly, for with a whole heart they had offered freely to the LORD.*

*David the king also rejoiced greatly. 1 Chronicles 29:9*

The people immediately rejoiced with their whole heart. Nothing feels as good as honoring God with the offerings of our life. And, nothing reveals what we really treasure in life like our celebrations. When we consecrate our lives to the Lord, His joy fills the whole of our being. You can even feel God's joy in your bones! God's worthiness is proven, that He is greater than any offering we give. This also distinguishes God from all other false gods. Offerings to false gods are over as soon as they get consumed. [When our lives are consecrated to Jesus, he returns a joy that far exceeds our offering.](#)

### 4. We treasure transformation when we unite our joy to multiply praise among the congregation. 29:10-13

*Therefore David blessed the LORD in the presence of all the assembly. And David said: "Blessed are you, O LORD, the God of Israel our father, forever and ever. <sup>11</sup>Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and you are exalted as head above all. <sup>12</sup>Both riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might, and in your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all. <sup>13</sup>And now we thank you, our God, and praise your glorious name.*

**1 Chron 29:10-13**

**Consecration positions life to bless the Lord.** Blessing the Lord only happens after consecration of life because the one who has not consecrated themselves through giving cannot say these things to the Lord with a clear conscience. [When we position our life with the congregation of God's people, individual testimonies synergize to form one, united testimony that produces greater glory.](#)

### 5. Treasuring transformation leads the congregation from celebration to communion with God. 29:14-22

**David's prayer demonstrates the movement of God's transformation among His people.** He acknowledges God's holiness and as the source of all things, and that God is the giver of good things in abundance.

*"But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able thus to offer willingly? For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you. <sup>15</sup>For we are strangers before you and sojourners, as all our fathers were. Our days on the earth are like a shadow, and there is no abiding. <sup>16</sup>O LORD our God, all this abundance that we have provided for building you a house for your holy name comes from your hand and is all your own. 1 Chron 29:14-16*

But, God is not a removed being that sends things our way on occasion. [God comes near to His people.](#)

*<sup>17</sup>I know, my God, that you test the heart and have pleasure in uprightness. In the uprightness of my heart I have freely offered all these things, and now I have seen your people, who are present here, offering freely and joyously to you. <sup>18</sup>O LORD, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, our fathers, keep forever such purposes and thoughts in the hearts of your people, and direct their hearts toward you. 1 Chron 29:17-18*

[God comes near to empowers us to commune with Him in worship.](#)

*<sup>19</sup>Grant to Solomon my son a whole heart that he may keep your commandments, your testimonies, and your statutes, performing all, and that he may build the palace for which I have made provision."*

*<sup>20</sup>Then David said to all the assembly, "Bless the LORD your God." And all the assembly blessed the LORD, the God of their fathers, and bowed their heads and paid homage to the LORD and to the king. <sup>22</sup>And they ate and drank before the LORD on that day with great gladness. 1 Chron 29:19-20, 22a*

When we consecrate our lives to the Lord with the congregation, He comes near to draw us into powerful communion with Him in worship and fellowship with others. [Worship from a whole heart only flows from a life that is consecrated, completely surrendered, to Jesus.](#)

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**CLOSE** I ask you to remain seated as you sing during this next song. I want to ask you to reflect on the Lord's salvation and what it means to consecrate your life to Him. I will return after the song to lead us to the Lord's Table.

## **COMPELLED Commitment & First Fruits Offering**

In just a few moments we will invite you to come to the Table to make your COMPELLED Campaign commitment and give your first fruits offering. But, before we do that, I want to share some things with you that are important for us.

Eighteen and a half years ago Christin and I moved to Springfield. A short time later we entered our first capital campaign, much like COMPELLED. Our church needed to expand space for ministry and mission. We have faithfully and regularly given our tithe and offerings since before we were both married. So, when we considered what we would give to that campaign we knew we would not stop giving our regular tithes and offerings. We discussed what we felt like we could do, then submitted that to the Lord and asked Him to lead us. He did. And for the last eighteen years or so, we've never looked back on that giving. We've been blessed to be able to increase our giving. But one thing that has never happened is this; we've never looked back on what we gave and felt any sense of regret. And through all these years, we've never stopped investing that offering in the church. We've followed the same process in this COMPELLED campaign. We are overjoyed to be able to participate and give. Our only regret, as in the past, is that we couldn't give more. But that always pales by the joy that comes.

Two weeks ago we gathered the leaders of this church. We invited everyone who serves as an Elder, a Board of Director, the staff, Community Group Leaders and Servant Team leaders. That equals about 78 people at LifePoint. We hold a high level of expectation for leaders at LifePoint because we want to excel in faithfulness. We asked them to practice this model of leading by example for the congregation, and they did. They made their commitments. LifePoint, I want to tell you today that you have been led well in the campaign. The Lord is doing something very special, that only He can do through us in this time. I believe He's going to demonstrate His all-sufficiency this morning in our commitment and first fruits offering.

I've been praying for your participation. As you prepare to come, can I share a couple of reminders.

1. Pray that God would lead us into deeper communion with Him and fellowship with one another today.
2. Make sure you've completed your commitment card correctly, and that your first fruits offering is designated by "COMPELLED" or "COAH".
3. Once you make your offering and take the Lord's Supper, return to your seat and rejoice with us. Let's fill this house with the praise of our great God!

COMPELLED is about LifePoint living as we've been loved. What better way for us to culminate this season than to come together to the Lord's Table to remember Jesus' sacrifice as we place your commitment card and firstfruit offering in the receptacle.