

Welcome: We would like to welcome you here today for our worship service with our sermon series called “Living the Transformed Life.” Our sermon today is called “**The Journey of Transformation and Forgiveness.**” Our sermon text is Genesis Chapter 37 and Genesis chapter 50:15-21. Note" the messages each week are also available on podcast from the church web page www.lightofchristwi.org

Sermon Outline

1. When I am immature in my character I elevate myself above others, which hurts others and myself. Think about a time when you did this...did this...what kind of result did it have? How can the Lord help us to grow in maturity?

2. God loves to communicate with his children, but when I am immature in my character I communicate dreams from God at the wrong time which hurts others and myself.
3. Personal transformation is often connected with trials in my life. What trials have you gone through in your life that contributed to your spiritual growth? What were the results of the changes the Lord did in your life?

4. Psalm 139:7-9 says, “*I can never escape from your spirit! I can never get away from your presence! 8 If I go up to heaven, you are there; if I go down to the place of the dead, you are there. 9 If I ride the wings of the morning, if I dwell by the farthest oceans, 10 even there your hand will guide me, and your strength will support me.*”
5. Trials refine us and leave behind what is genuine and true, “*Behold I have refined you, but not as silver; I have tested you in the furnace of affliction.*” (Isaiah 48:10) There is never growth without trials. What does this say about trials and how important they are in your life?

6. Forgiveness is a gift from God to us and is the very purpose Jesus came and gave his life for us so not only could we be forgiven and live a new life, but forgive others who sin against us. Why is the Lord’s prayer so profound when we stop and really think about what it says?

7. Sermon Mediation – What is the Lord telling you today? What is challenging about what the Lord is telling you? Why is it challenging? What would He like you to do about what He has communicated with you today?

8. The Vine and the Branches
 - a. Take a minute or two, close your eyes and quiet your heart. Ask God to speak to you through the following exercise.
 - i. Which of the following images seems to best reflect the season of life you are currently in?
 - ii. Please realize that there is no bad season represented by any of these image. These pictures represent the variety of season that we all experience in our walk with Christ. God is at work in every one of them.
 - iii. Describe how you feel it represents your current season.

