

“TAKING MOMENTS”
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GOD IT'S ME
 a teaching series at Kessid

“People desire improvement, not transformation.”

And yet, we are called to transform...

(Vs) Rom. 12:2a – “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind...”

- This is the space I’m going to try and drag us into over the next few weeks... “A Transformational Space”
- As we sit together with children in the room and watching with their families online, I feel like we have a really special opportunity to learn from them...

Children are the clearest example of a transforming human being...

- They change right before your eyes, but you don’t really notice it till you “Take a Moment” and look...
- In my own emotional and spiritual health journeys, so many of my own breakthroughs have come when I stop long enough to ‘Take a Moment’ and notice...

Did you know that, “A Moment was a medieval unit of time equaling about 90 Seconds.” It was used for Sundial time keeping.

Jesus encourages “Moment taking” all throughout his teachings...

(Vs) Matt 18:1-5a – At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” And calling to Him a child, He put him in the midst of them and said, “Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me...”

- He seizes The Moment, and with the Transforming Child as His example, restarts their clearly stalled transformations.
- He says, “look into the eyes of this child and see how it’s meant to be...”

Jesus teaches that we are called to live as 'Childlike Moment Takers'

- Let's dig deeper!

Children often say exactly what it is they're feeling - even when we think they shouldn't...

- What they're feeling about, what's bothering them, offending them, what they want or desire...
- They are very REAL in this way. No pretending!

(Vs) Psalm 145:18 (GNTD) - "He is near to those who call to Him, who call to Him with sincerity."

"We can bring our joy, pain and worry to God in the same way: without filters."

Children often see the world simply.

- It's easy to get caught up in the complexity of our everyday lives...
- Feeling pressure to make things like our prayers sound lofty and important.

(Vs) Psalm 145:18 (ESV) - "The Lord is near to all who call on Him, to all who call on Him in truth."

"Practice talking to God simply."

- For example, asking Him to help you love people well... Generous, etc....

Children are full of imagination.

- They often think without barriers. They hope for things that seem impossible...

(Vs) Matthew 17:20 (GNTD) - "I assure you that if you have faith as big as a mustard seed, you can say to this hill, 'Go from here to there!' and it will go. You could do anything!"

"Remember that God is more powerful than the walls we create for ourselves."

Question: What if you Took a few Moments this week to sit with your children and grandchildren?

- ... To observe the how very REAL they are. - To ask yourself if you are validating those emotions and feelings in a healthy way.
- ... To lay on the floor and IMAGINE with them who they will one day become. - What part will you play in that development?
- ... To really watch how they navigate their day-to-day lives in total TRUST. - Where are you building or breaking that trust?

- Through all this, Jesus is driving home this picture of a person in total reliance and relationship with Him.

“Healthy functioning children expect you to receive their love just as they expect you to share yours.”

- In the same way... “Healthy functioning Christians can expect God to receive their love just as they can expect Him to share His.”

Finding people who live like this is very special. Illustration: The Great Banquet...

(Vs) Luke 14: 21b-23 – “Then the master of the house became angry and said to his servant, ‘Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and crippled and blind and lame.’²² And the servant said, ‘Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.’²³ And the master said to the servant, ‘Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled.’”

We’re launching a Recovery Service on Monday nights.

- It’s here you can find people ‘Transforming right before your eyes.’
- People who are willing to take authentic and vulnerable moments...
 - To say what *it is* they’re feeling...
 - To hope and *imagine* a better life...
 - To serve others because they want to *simply* help people...

Allow me now to drag you a bit further into this, “Transformational Space...”

- There was an angry Young Student...He ‘Took A long Moment’ and then prayed, “God, it’s me.”
- He was willing to blame and curse and cry...
- He prayed authentically and with vulnerability.
- I can’t think of a more “Moment Taking” “Transformative Space” than prayer...

Let’s “Take a Moment” now... Right here, sitting with God.

Praying a “God, it’s me...” prayer .

- Say what it is you’re feeling... REAL!
- IMAGINE with God what it is He wants to accomplish within your life...
- Set down the complicated and hold onto the simple... TRUST!
- Allow God to seize this moment and restart your stalled transformation...