CONSIDER THIS

In John Maxwell’s book, “Developing the Leader Within You”, he quotes a Middle Eastern mystic who said, “I was a revolutionary when I was young and all my prayer to God was: ‘Lord, give me the energy to change the world’. As I approached middle age and realised that my life was half gone without my changing a single soul, I changed my prayer to: ‘Lord, give me the grace to change all those who come into contact with me, just my family and friends, and I shall be satisfied’. Now that I am an old man and my days are numbered, I have begun to see how foolish I have been. My one prayer now is: ‘Lord, give me the grace to change myself’. If I had prayed for this right from the start, I would not have wasted my life."

Submit your life to God today. Surrender every area to the lordship of Jesus. Ask the Holy Spirit to empower you to live for God.

WARM UP

A woman walked into her bathroom at home. As she did, she saw her husband weighing himself on the bathroom scales, sucking in his stomach. The woman thought to herself, “He thinks that he will weigh less by sucking in his stomach”. So the woman rather sarcastically said to her husband, “That’s not going to help”. Her husband replied, “Sure it will. It’s the only way I can see the numbers”.

BACKGROUND

For many of us the closest we get to change is the coins in the car’s ashtray. In truth, it’s not easy - in fact it is impossible to change without God. He must change us deep within before we can ever really hope to see that change on the outside. Without an intimate relationship with God, we can never truly have victory over the darkness in our lives and truly experience the transformation God offers each of us.

READ Romans 13:11-12

QUESTIONS FOR INTERACTION

1. What habits are keeping you from walking closely with God?

2. How can others support you in the journey?

3. Name three things you could do to get closer to God.

4. Write a letter to yourself and have a friend mail it to you 6 months from now.

WRAP UP

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IT’S TIME FOR PRAYER

MY RESPONSE AS A PROMISE KEEPER

I will become accountable to another Christian brother for my spiritual growth.