## **Ew. Choosing Jesus in the Mess** *Making Changes: The Transformation Choice*

Memory Verse: Matthew 5:6 - "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied." ESV

James 1:27 - "Pure and genuine religion in the sight of God the Father means caring for orphans and widows in their distress and refusing to let the world corrupt you."

1. I <u>choose</u> to let Christ change the direction of my heart. 2 Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 5:22-23; Romans 12:1-2;
Galatians 6:14
2. My heart changes as I <u>submit</u> to my Heavenly Father's loving influence.

- Accept my new Identity. 1 John 3:1; Ephesians 1:5
- <u>Receive</u> God's power to change. 2 Corinthians 12:7-10; Philippians 4:13
- <u>Listen</u> to the Holy Spirit and to people who care about my heart change. *Galatians 5:16; 1 Corinthians 15:33-34*
- <u>Live</u> One day at a time. *Matthew 6:11; Matthew 6:34;* Lamentations 3:21-26
- Look for the good that God is doing. Philippians 4:8;
- <u>Focus</u> on progress, not perfection. *Philippians 1:6;* 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

## Next Week's Reading Guide:

Matthew 5:7&9, Colossians 3:12-17 Ephesians 4:31-32, Mark 11:25 Matthew 6:12, Matthew 18:21-22 Romans 14:10-12, Matthew 5:23-24 Romans 12:18, Matthew 5:43-48 Luke 6:31, 35-36 Hebrews 12:14-15, Job 11:13-19

## **Discussion Questions:**

- 1. How has your heart changed in character since receiving Christ? (fruit of the Spirit)
- 2. How has your heart changed in values since receiving Christ? (what do you give your time, talent and treasure to?)
- 3. How fully do you REALLY identify with being God's child? (you're confident in knowing He loves, accepts and values you)
- 4. Which of the 6 submission points do you find easiest? Which is the most difficult?