

Pastor Brian's
Midweek Message
August 10, 2022

"TRANSFORMATION"

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind. (Romans 12:2a)

For about a week and a half, pretty much since we returned from our travels, our home has been undergoing a transformation. It hasn't been all that pleasant, but it could be a whole lot worse! The end result promises to be well worth any of the troubles as the old worn out, dirty, and dingy carpet in our house will be replaced by new wood patterned vinyl flooring.

The fun began with the need to remove all our worldly possessions that were located on, or within 3 feet straight up from, the old floor surface. All that we could leave in place was the BIG furniture. But even the beds had to be stripped of all the linens. The logical resting place for all this stuff is the garage, and ours now looks like that of most of the rest of the residents of Gulf Cove...stuffed.



I guess we're not doing too badly, at least we can still get one car in.

Over the past weekend a destruction crew came in to remove the old beat up, chipped, and cracked tile from the floor of our kitchen, entry, and hallway. With this began the "dustification" of our abode, which not only means a layer of it on everything but also airborne particles that we get to constantly breath in. The concrete floor exposed from under all that tile showed no significant improvement over what had been.

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On Monday began the “construction phase” of the project (with a little more destruction as the old ratty carpet was ripped out). By the end of the day our bedroom and closets were done, along with most of the family room. We were able to set up our sleeping quarters for the night. Yesterday the kitchen, entry, laundry room, and most of the hallway were accomplished, and the results are really beginning to look good.



I apologize for the blurriness of the photo, but that’s the best I could do in the dust storm.

As I sit at our dining room table this morning typing this epistle, I await the crew of worker to come today. With just two more bedrooms and a bit of the hall left to do, we pray that by day’s end the transformation will be complete. Then we can shovel out the dust and start moving back in. As I stated above, the end result will more than compensate for any inconvenience for many years to come.

“Transformation”, that’s something that we Christians are called to do. We are to be gradually changed from having a worldly prospective to an eternal heavenly kingdom perspective. Scripture also describes it as being “conformed to Christ” (Romans 8:29) as well as “clothing yourself with Christ” (Romans 13:14). The idea is that we become more and more like Jesus every day. Above the Apostle Paul tells us how to do it...“*by the renewal of your mind*”. That process, like getting new floor, isn’t necessarily comfortable. It takes effort, focus and perseverance. The renewing of the mind comes by the power of the Holy Spirit working in God’s Word. It begins with cleaning out and tearing out our old ratty worldly ways and replacing them with fresh clean Godly ways of thinking, speaking and doing. The process takes quite a long time...a whole lifetime...but the results prove to be far and beyond greater than any discomfort that we experience along the way. Once the dust clears you will see things as the truly are. In fact, you’ll know the truth, and the truth will set you free. Jesus is the truth of course, so transformation will draw you closer to Jesus.