

MAKING PROGRESS

Part 2: Changes for Progress

MAKING PROGRESS INVOLVES CHANGE

- Outward changes
 1. Change systems/routine
 2. Purchase something new
 3. Change locations/people
- Spiritual change is an inner process (***Romans 12:2 NLT***)
 1. Don't copy the world's pattern
 2. Transformation begins inside - shows up on the outside
 3. A mindset change - how we think and perceive

NAAMAN: MAKING CHANGES FOR PROGRESS' SAKE (2 Kings 5:9-14 NLT)

- He placed great value in being healed
 1. He took large amounts of gold/silver/clothing
 2. Made a significant trip - involved soldiers, chariots, horsemen
 3. There was a cost involved of time and money
- He was tripped up by wrong expectations
 1. He did not know God or His ways
 2. He had already thought through how this would happen - the prophet, not the assistant
 3. He was angry at the instructions - his nations' rivers were better
- Naaman was willing to make adjustments
 1. He had the humility to listen to his people
 2. Was willing to do what God had instructed him to do - even though it might have been embarrassing

THE INNER CHANGES THAT PRODUCE PROGRESS

- Assign value to making spiritual progress
 1. We are the ones who determine the value
 2. Things we value, we'll pay for
 3. Spiritual progress will cost - time/effort/ focus (***1 Timothy 4:15 NKJV***)
- Manage expectations
 1. Good to expect progress/growth and change (***Psalms 27:13 NKJV***)
 2. Don't get trapped by the hows, whos and whens
- Be willing to make adjustments (***James 4:6 NKJV***)
 1. As long as Naaman was fixed on his way or the highway, it would have been no way
 2. Adjust to what God has said in His word and whispered to your heart
 3. Go dip instructions for making spiritual progress (***1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 NKJV***)