

## **David Posthuma**

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Assessed: Jan 23, 2024 Salvation Status: I became a Christian in 1998

# Felt Need: Life Transformation

- You are ready for a positive change in your life.
- You may desire to regain your "first love", Jesus Christ.
- You desire that your life and ministry would reflect Christ's nature.
- You long for the reality of Christ to be manifest in your life.
- You may struggle with feelings of spiritual inadequacy and/or guilt.

People who identify with the Life Transformational profile generally desire greater vitality and intimacy in their relationship with Jesus Christ. However, to reach that next relational level will require that they entrust significant areas of their life to God's control. Giving up control is never easy. Yet, God desires all that we are, not just the areas of our lives that we are willing to commit to him. Every Christ follower soon learns that true change can only occur as we surrender our will to his will.



The work of the Holy Spirit is always loving and good for Christ followers, but not necessarily easy. People who resonate with the Life Transformational profile should expect the Holy Spirit to challenge their current values and priorities...their ways are seldom his ways. They will learn that true transformation means dying to self...that is, sacrificing their old lifestyles and selfish ambitions...and learning to humbly allow Christ to rule in them and through them for his glory. The goal of the Holy Spirit is to transform their character to increasingly reflect the character of Jesus. This character transformation process is evidence that God is at work within them, and this evidence will enable them to trust him to continue that work.

### Soul

#### AssessME Profile for David Posthuma

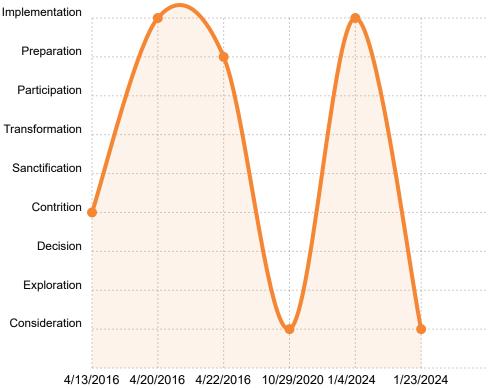
At this point in their spiritual development, they may begin questioning "Why did God create me, and for what purpose?" They may for the first time begin to ask God what he desires of their lives rather than merely expecting God to bless their desires. They may also sense that God indeed does have a plan and purpose for their lives, but

may yet be uncertain as to the nature of that plan. If they have been walking with the Lord for a number of years, it may be possible that they are aware of God's plan, but for whatever reason may have strayed from that divine purpose. It may be time to repent and return once again to the mission for which they were created.

# Formation Phase: Discover / Consideration

- You are struggling to come to terms with God's existence
- You have serious questions that appear to challenge the existence of God
- You may have begun to question how the world came into being and if it was possibly accomplished through intelligent design
- You are confronting the tension "faith" seems to impose upon human reason
- You may have been suppressing the truth about who God is

The Discover/Consider stage of spiritual development is foundational to all other spiritual formation stages. It is at this stage that an individual confronts the tension "faith" seems to impose upon human reason. It is at this stage that individuals begin to question how the world came into being, and if it was possibly accomplished through intelligent design. If there was an intelligent designer, then God must exist, and if God exists and created all things, then how this might this newly discovered reality impinge upon one's life.



People who find themselves at the Discover/Consider stage of spiritual formation, often possess serious questions that may challenge the existence of God. While these questions can generally be addressed reasonably through apologetics, it is not foremost reason that needs to be assuaged, but the softening of one spirit to the work of the Holy Spirit. Romans 1:18-23 affirm what theologians call "General Revelation". The principal of General Revelation suggests that all of creation knows there is a God, because the complexity and glory of creation reflects the personhood of God the Creator. The passage states: "The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the

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godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse. For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools...." Clearly the Apostle Paul believes that people knowingly use their broken sinful nature to "suppress the truth".

It would then seem that the purpose of the Discover/Consider phase of spiritual formation is to begin the process of confronting selfdeception. An honest and simple prayer that may be helpful is to simply ask the Lord, if he exists, to reveal himself. Jesus is recorded in Matthew 7:7-8 affirming that all who seek the Lord will find him... "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened."

## Strategies

	Signed Up	Complete
Mere Christianity Bible	n/a	-
Reasons to Believe   Aneko Press Book	n/a	-
The Case for Christ Study Guide with DVD Video	n/a	-
The Faith Participant's Guide Book	n/a	-
Truths We Confess by R.C. Sproul Book	n/a	-
13 Reasons We Need Church History Article	n/a	-
Sample Strategy Bible	n/a	-