

# Kids Column



**"And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."  
(Rom. 12:2)**

The word "transformed" is from the Greek word "metamorphe," (to transform or change) and is found only in the above verse and in Matt. 17:2 and Mark 9:2 where it is used of the transfiguration of Jesus. It is used in biology with reference to the change of the worm to the butterfly.

Once I put a huge ugly green worm, which I had found in the garden, into a jar. I did this to teach my small daughters the lesson of how a Christian is to be transformed from the world. The worm spun itself into a cocoon, and stayed there several days. One morning we looked into the jar, and there was a very beautiful butterfly. We released it, and it flew away. My girls were so impressed by my illustration that they filled the whole house with jars, with worms in them!

In biology the emphasis is on the outward transformation; but in Christianity, it is on the inward.  
By: David J Riggs

## Question of the Week

**Here is a Bible question, I will put one per week in the bulletin, when you find the answer come tell it to me (Allen).**

**Read Numbers 22:21-39**

**In this story, what did Balaam's donkey see, and what happen when the donkey saw it?**

**Gods Plan Of Salvation**

**Hear, Romans 10:17, Believe, John-8:24, Repent, Luke 13:3, Confess, Romans-10:9-10, Baptism, Acts 2:38, Remain Faithful, Revelation 2:10**

# seeking Truth



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## Service Times

Sunday Morning Bible Study 10:00AM  
Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 AM  
Wednesday Evening Bible Study 6:00 PM  
**Everyone is Welcome To Attend!**



## The Good, the Bad, and the Negligible

Your influence is the effect you have on others. Influence is measured by change, meaning that if you influence someone, then that person changes in some way because of you. It is also measured by non-change when someone chooses to remain the same because of you.

For those of us who are Christians, Jesus expects our influence on others to be completely good. He said in Matthew 5:16, "Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven." Causing others to glorify God is the best influence we can have on them, and with that we expect that they will also surrender to the Lord in faithful obedience. Whether we are influencing believers in Jesus or nonbelievers, we are to be good examples of faith to provoke the same faith in them (1Tim. 4:12; Titus 2:7; Heb. 10:24).

On the other hand, if we influence others in any way that is bad, then we are failing in our mission. Let us learn from the failures of the sons of Israel, whose wickedness was so bad that the Scripture said to them, "The name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you" (Rom. 2:24; see Ezek. 36:20-23). We must not be the reason for anyone to believe error, practice sin, or speak evil of God. Our conduct and speech must be above reproach so that we do not become anyone's excuse for unbelief and sin (Phil. 2:14-15; 1Tim. 5:14; Titus 2:8).

Here, it is good to think about the ways we influence others. There is in-person contact by which our words and deeds are directly received and observed by others. There is also any media by which we communicate with others and influence them without being in their presence. These days, social media is prominent, and much influence is had there. If we use social media, then we must be careful that everything we post and share has an influence that is good in the eyes of God.

It is also possible that our influence on others is negligible. Of course, we cannot control how others react to us, but we must try to influence them for good. We are to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, but if we become "tasteless" salt, or if we hide our light, then we are "no longer good for anything" (Matt. 5:13-15). As we saw before, we must let our light shine for God rather than keeping the light of His goodness to ourselves.

So then, let us check our influence. Is it good, bad, or negligible? In everything we do, let's be careful that our influence is always good and never bad. Moreover, let us understand that being a good influence will not happen by chance, so let us make the effort to have a positive effect on others for the sake of the Lord.

Stacey E. Durham