

TRANSFORMATION CHURCH

Gospel Friends

CONVERSATION GUIDE: WEEK SIX

Gospel Friends

Gospel friendships are transformational, not transactional.

SERMON RECAP:

Gospel friendships that last, know the difference between transformational relationships and transactional relationships. Have you ever been friends with someone who only seemed interested in what you could do for them? It probably didn't feel good. Contrast that to a friendship in which there is mutual love and respect. That probably feels a lot better. When you have a friendship that points to Jesus, seeks harmony, and breaks dividing barriers, it is transformational. Romans 12:16 says: *Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud; instead, associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own estimation.* Humility is an important element in gospel friendships. When we are humble, we seek to serve as opposed to being served. When we are humble, we think the best of each other instead of the worst. When we are humble, we understand that we can make mistakes and apologize for them. As you have conversations in your small group, think of examples of what being a humble friend looks like. Humble friends seek harmony, pursue unity in Christ, protect our unity in Christ, and promote our unity in Christ.





Kevin

GOSPEL FRIEND STORY:

Kevin and his family began attending Transformation Church on the very first Sunday it opened. They were drawn in by the messages and knew they had found their church home. Kevin began serving because “faith needs to be expressed.” After trying out a few different roles, he found his niches on two separate teams: the parking team and the content editing team.

With the parking team, Kevin gets to welcome people as they drive in for Sunday service. He waves them in and makes sure the traffic flows nicely. It’s Kevin’s goal to create an easy and pleasant experience. With the content editing team, Kevin gets to use his love for words and precision. “When there are typographical errors in a book or in the subtitles of a movie, I almost always see them. I just can’t not see them. So, to find a way to put my eagle eye to practice and use the skill that God gave me is really awesome. When I tried to use that skill in other places, it hasn’t been well-received, and I’ve felt like it wasn’t welcome. Here at TC, when I give input, the feedback that I get is very positive. I’ve appreciated that because it has affirmed the gift in me and has actually allowed me to develop it.”

We are thankful for the way Kevin serves TC in humble ways that often go unnoticed. Kevin does his best to create an excellent experience for people driving on to our lot and for people reading our content. This helps to eliminate distractions so people can experience God.

Discussion Questions:

UPWARD:

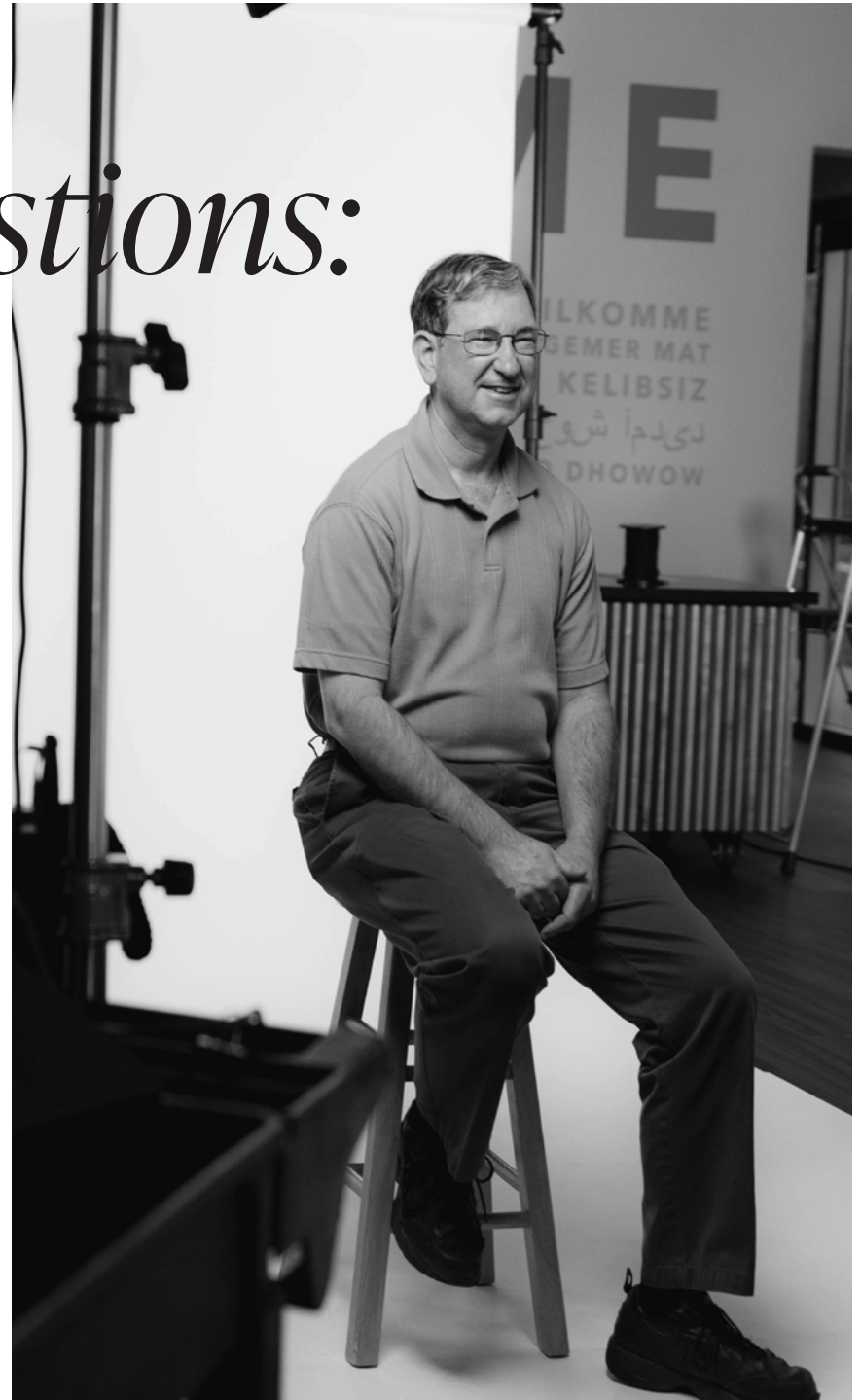
- Read Romans 15:7-9. How is Jesus an example of a humble friend?
- How is God glorified when we live in harmony with one another?

INWARD:

- Romans 15:7 says, “Therefore welcome one another, just as Christ also welcomed you, to the glory of God.” Recall when Christ welcomed you into His family. What was that experience like for you? Was it humbling?

OUTWARD:

- Gospel friendships that last pursue our unity in Christ, protect our unity in Christ, and promote our unity in Christ. What does it mean to be united to others by Christ?
- What are some barriers to our unity in Christ that you have noticed?
- How can you actively and intentionally pursue unity with others in your everyday life (at work, at home, in your family, etc.)?
- Take time to build each other up in your group. This helps to promote peace and lasting bonds in your group.



Soul Tattoo:

Ask God to reveal to you how you can grow as a friend and cultivate humility in your friendships.

Action Step:

Explore serving with our Creative Arts team by filling out a serve interest form or taking our interactive serve course on the website.

