

away; behold, all things have become new. All this newness of life is from God, who brought us back to himself through what Christ did.

*Lord, Lord, Open Unto Me.*

*Open unto me – light for my darkness.*

*Open unto me – courage for my fears.*

*Open unto me – hope for my despair.*

*Open unto me - Peace for my turmoil.*

*Open unto me - joy for my sorrow.*

*Open unto me – strength for my weakness.*

*Open unto me – wisdom for my confusion.*

*Open unto me – forgiveness for my sins.*

*Open unto me - tenderness for my toughness.*

*Open unto me – love for my hate.*

*Open unto me – Thy Self for my self.*

*Lord, Lord, open unto me!*

*Amen.*

~ Howard Thur-



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Sermon Notes — December 31st, 2017

Petaluma Valley Baptist Church

**Keep the Change...2018**

**2 Corinthians 5:17 & 18**

#### ♦ Theory of Change

*1st Order Change: Doing the \_\_\_\_\_ way \_\_\_\_\_ thing in a*

*2nd Order Change: A new attitude or behavior that is \_\_\_\_\_ different than what previously existed*

**Key Understanding:** Merely experiencing first order changes in our lives leave us feeling very \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

**Life Principle:** The most \_\_\_\_\_ thing we can change is \_\_\_\_\_

## 4 Primary Hindrances to Change:

**#1.** \_\_\_\_\_

**Proverbs 16:18** Pride goes before destruction, and haughtiness before a fall.

**Proverbs 11:2** Pride leads to disgrace ...

**Proverbs 13:10** Pride leads to conflict...

**Proverbs 23:29** Pride ends in humiliation ...

\* The antidote for Pride is \_\_\_\_\_

**Starting Point:** *We admit that we are powerless over our situation, that our lives have become unmanageable, and that we need a power greater than ourselves to restore us to sanity.*

**1 Corinthians 8:1** *But knowledge puffs us up (or inflates us with pride).*

**James 4:6** *God sets himself against the proud, but he shows favor to the humble.*

**#2.** \_\_\_\_\_

\* The Antidote for avoidance is taking \_\_\_\_\_

**Key understanding:** As long as we \_\_\_\_\_ responsibility for the choices we need to make, we will never \_\_\_\_\_ our situation

**#3.** \_\_\_\_\_ **or** \_\_\_\_\_

**Proverbs 13:4** *Lazy people want much but get little.*

**Proverbs 15:19** *A lazy person has trouble all through life.*

**Life Principle:** We will never change until the \_\_\_\_\_ of change becomes more than the \_\_\_\_\_ of staying where we are

\* The Antidote for Laziness is developing a \_\_\_\_\_ of change that identifies the \_\_\_\_\_ of change

## **#4. A** \_\_\_\_\_ **Attitude**

**1 Thessalonians 5:16-18** *Always be joyful. Keep on praying. No matter what happens, always be thankful, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.*

\* The Antidote for a negative attitude is to realize who \_\_\_\_\_ is and who we are in \_\_\_\_\_ to him

**CASE STUDY:** *ACTS 7:54—9:31*

**Thought Question:** Why would God \_\_\_\_\_ to have a relationship with \_\_\_\_\_ and bring about such dramatic change in his life?

**Answer:** Because God \_\_\_\_\_ him and had a \_\_\_\_\_ for his life

**1 John 4:8-10** *God is love. God showed how much he loved us by sending his only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him. This is real love. It is not that we loved God, but that he loved us.*

**2 Tim 2:21** *If you keep yourself pure, you will be a utensil God can use for his purpose. Your life will be clean, and you will be ready for the Master to use you for every good work.*

**Romans 5:8** *But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.*  
**John 14:6** *I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.*

**1 John 1:9** *If we confess our sins to him (and our need for him), he can be depended on to forgive us and to cleanse us from every wrong.*

**2 Corinthians 5:17 & 18** *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed*