

***RIVERSIDE ANGLICAN CHURCHES***  
**QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION OR REFLECTION**  
**The God who gathers and transforms his people**

1. What would you say to someone if they were to ask you ‘why doesn’t God take us straight to heaven as soon as we turn to him in repentance and faith’? When do you think your salvation happens?

2. What do you learn from the following passages about our salvation:

Past	Romans 3:21-26; 1 Peter 3:18; Titus 3:5; Ephesians 2:8	
Present	1 Corinthians 1:18; 1 Peter 1:8-9	
Future	1 Peter 1:3-5; Col 1:5, Rom 5:2,9-10; 1 Cor 15:51-54; Phil 3:21	

3. Our experience of salvation now is to be progressively transformed into the likeness of Jesus Christ. Our transformation involves our pursuit of obedience to Jesus. How high a priority is this for you at the moment?

4. Read John 14:1-24 and 1 John 2:3-6. What does our obedience to Christ’s commands demonstrate? Is obedience optional for the Christian? What do you think the writer of the Hebrews means in 12:14?

5. How could you deepen your understanding of what things you are to ‘put off’ and what things you are to ‘put on’?

6. What is God’s role in our transformation? You might like to read:

- a. Philippians 2:12-13
- b. Heb 13:20-21
- c. Rom 8
- d. 2 Cor 3:18 & 4:6

7. The saving love of God for us is not dependent upon performance or obedience but upon his mercy and grace. Yet how might our pursuit of holiness affect our experience of God’s love – our assurance, our joy in the Spirit, peace of conscience?

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## **The Caterpillar and the Chrysalis**

### **The Future, Past and Present of salvation**

Future – glorification - 1 Peter 1:3-5; Phil 3:21; Col 1:5, Rom 5:2; 1 Cor 15:51-54

Past – justification – Romans 3:21-26; 1 Peter 3:18

Present – transformation - 1 Corinthians 1:18; 1 Peter 1:8-9

### **Transformation is your work of obedience**

The Obedience of Faith

Mortification – putting off the old self – Ephesians 4:20-24

Putting on the new self – Ephesians 4:20-24

### **Transformation is God's work**

God transforms us! - Philippians 2:12-13; Heb 13:20-21; Rom 8, 2 Cor 3:18

### **Why you should make growing like Christ your highest priority**

1. God commands you to do this – 2 Peter 3:18; 1 John 5:3-4
2. This is what God is doing in the world – gathering and transforming
3. Assurance of God's love and favour, peace of conscience, joy in the Spirit