

**Keep the Change**  
**Sermon Based Discussion (May 5, 2013)**  
**Sermon Series: Making Change**

**WARM UP**

1. What is a pattern or bad habit you had in the past (maybe as a kid or years ago) that you would hate to fall back into?

Have you tried to make a change, only to have it become undone? Maybe you tried to get yourself removed from a no-call list, but you keep getting called. Or maybe you tried to change an online purchase order, and they keep getting it wrong. Those situations can be frustrating. But more frustrating is when we seem to make positive change in our lives, and then slip back into old ways of thinking and doing.

In this session, we see how some Bible characters fell back into old and sinful ways of living. We'll also see how they combated this in order to keep the change God was doing in their lives.

**INTO THE BIBLE**  
**(Read Galatians 2:11-21)**

2. What consequences resulted from Cephas separating himself from the Gentiles?
3. How was Cephas separating himself from the Gentiles "not in step with the truth of the gospel"(v.14)?

**UNDERSTANDING**

4. If a person is saved by faith in Jesus and not by works, does that mean a Christian can sin as much as he wants? Why or why not?
5. What does it mean that a Christian has been "crucified in Christ" (v.20)?
6. Why do you think Paul made such a strong, public denunciation of Cephas' sin (as opposed to a private confrontation)?

7. Pastor Enoch contrasted two kinds of change in his message. One kind of change amounts to behavior modification using guilt, fear, or shame. (I.e., do you want to be like those bad people?) The other kind of change comes from living out the gospel of faith.

What should change from the gospel be more lasting than behavior modification?

**DIFFERENCE**

8. How do you feel knowing that godly leaders like Cephas (apostle Peter) and Barnabas can fall out of step with the gospel, i.e., "lose" their change?
9. How do you feel knowing that godly leaders like Cephas (apostle Peter) and Barnabas can fall out of step with the gospel, i.e., "lose" their change?
10. What is an area of your life in which you've struggled to maintain a positive change?

**APPLICATION**

11. How can you apply the truth of the gospel to a struggle in your life keep the change?

**FOR REFLECTION**

*I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.*

*(Galatians 2:20, ESV)*