

Breaking Bread

Newsletter –

The Brisbane Society of The New Church,
Brisbane and South-East Queensland

Aug, Sept, Oct 2017



Art Work By Lenore Sandow

There are some who are very willing to be vastated [transformed through spiritual pruning and separation] and thus get rid of the false principles which they have brought with them from the world. (No one can get rid of his false principles in the other life except by the lapse of time and by means provided by the Lord.) While these persons remain in the lower earth, they are kept by the Lord in the hope of deliverance, and in the thought of the end in view, which is that they may be amended and prepared to receive heavenly happiness. Secrets of Heaven 1107.

Emanuel Swedenborg

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The Transfiguration An Inner Personal Transformation Model The Three Essential Keys to Personal Transformation

Hope is one of the most powerful forces in a believer's life, so much so that many believers have struggled in their regeneration primarily because they did not have a developed understand of the important part that hope plays in personal transformation.

Often, I have found after having a breakthrough in an area of my life, I am amazed at how simple the breakthrough really was. The blockages to most breakthroughs require simple adjustments or minor changes to facilitate a move through the blockage into new freedom. And yet, so often, our journey to freedom seems to be a long drawn out process. For Israel fleeing Egypt, their journey across the desert to the Promised Land could have been achieved in less than forty days. However, it took forty years due to the conditioning of their minds while in slavery in Egypt. It took a whole new generation of Israelites who had not known slavery to be able to move ahead and successfully face the challenges of the Promised Land.

So why does it take so long for us to move through our blockages when transformation is often a simple adjustment?

The answer is that our minds are also conditioned by enslavement to our various blockages. It takes time for us to renew our minds and thinking so that we can let go of our love/hate relationship towards the blockages. It also takes time (perhaps more) for the renewal of our minds to reach the point where we truly perceive what freedom and breakthrough really are and how valuable those states of freedom are. When our personal love and desire for freedom out ways our love for the objects of our blockage, we easily and quickly move ahead into new freedom. The renewal of our thinking is so important in this process that Paul made this statement to the Church in Rome –

Romans 12

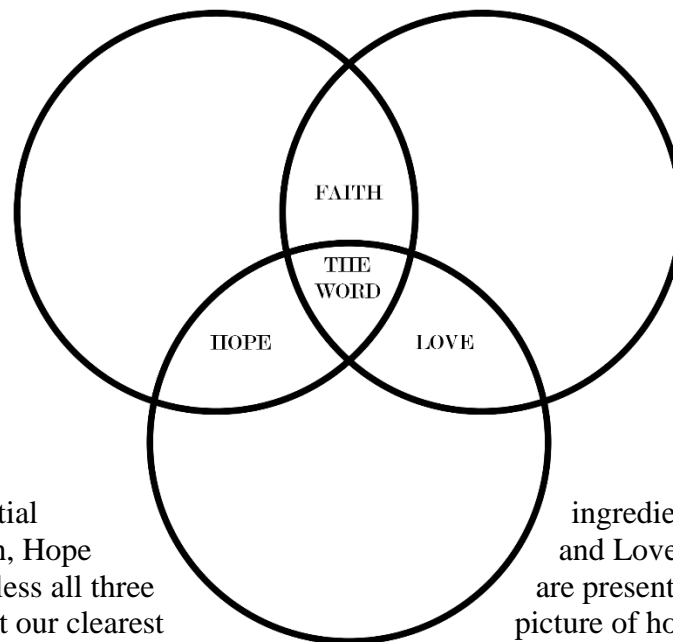
1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

*2 And be not conformed to this world: but **be ye transformed** by the **renewing of your mind**, that ye may prove what is that **good**, and **acceptable**, and **perfect**, will of God.*

And now these three remain: faith, hope and love...

1 Corinthians 13:13

Inner Personal Transformation Model



There are three essential ingredients in the renewal of the mind, that is Faith, Hope and Love. In fact, there can be no transformation unless all three are present. The fourth ingredient is the WORD. We get our clearest picture of how transformation occurs in Mark 9:2-8. Here, the scriptures tell us that Jesus went up a mountain and was transfigured. He did not take all the disciples with Him but only Peter, James and John. A cloud came down and surrounded the men during the transfiguration. This suggests that we never truly know everything concerning transformation in our lives but will only have a general, vague or clouded understanding of the inner workings of regeneration.

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occurs in Mark 9:2-8. Here, the scriptures tell us that Jesus went up a mountain and was transfigured. He did not take all the disciples with Him but only Peter, James and John. A cloud came down and surrounded the men during the transfiguration. This suggests that we never truly know everything concerning transformation in our lives but will only have a general, vague or clouded understanding of the inner workings of regeneration. The Mountain points to the reality that we must apply ourselves and strive against all those blockages standing in our way. Overcoming takes effort. Each of the three disciples represent something different. Peter represents 'our faith' based on good teaching from the Word. James is love for the neighbour and the Lord, while John is the hope within us of loving, useful service to the neighbour and the Lord. The fact that the other disciples were *NOT* present emphasises the importance that these three, Faith, Hope and Love, play in our own personal transformation. The

Lord is, of course, the Word empowering us with the Life of God through regeneration/transformation. Thus, transformation requires both the Word and the presence of Faith, Hope and Love.

I would like to break these three down for you very briefly, while placing some emphasis on Hope. The reason being that for many believers, Hope is the missing ingredient in their spiritual processes.

FAITH - *HOW*

To 'have faith' is to have a living knowledge of holiness. Our Faith dictates to us how we should live and conduct our lives. When we 'live by our faith', there is no contradiction between our belief systems and our daily actions. The longer we live without contradiction by our faith, the more we are actively releasing the Lord's creative power into our future to ensure that our lives are transformed. Faith answers the **HOW** of transformation.

LOVE - *WHY*

When Love is present in our lives, we are moved with compassion and goodwill towards all. We are not overly interested in our own wellbeing but seek the good of all, ourselves included. Love causes us to long for and enjoy the presence of others or special times alone with the Lord. Love causes us daily to be discontent with stagnation while being excited about the real growth of our souls and that of others.

Love answers the **WHY** of transformation.

What is interesting is that most believers have a good grasp on these first two essential keys. They are endeavouring to increase the influence of Faith and Love in their lives. It is this third ingredient, Hope, that is often vaguely understood and therefore not sufficiently practised. The result is that blockages occur more frequently and such blockages can prove difficult to overcome or remove.

HOPE - *WHERE*

Hope is important because it clarifies where we are headed. If faith is the engine and love is the fuel, then hope is the navigation system telling the vehicle where to go and even identifying what obstacle may stand in the way. Hope is the spiritual blueprint defining exactly what is to be built. Faith is the builder and Love is the currency. When we fail to identify God's calling for our life and thereby clarify all the details, we are creating an impedance to Faith and ultimately to Love. The Lord does not just want to give us Faith and Love but He also wants to fill us with Godly dreams that align with our spiritual calling.

Hope answers the **WHERE** of transformation.

Prayer is more than just asking God for things. Prayer is allowing the Lord to speak into our minds. When we engage in this kind of Divine communication regularly, the Lord can speak with vision and hope into us. These Divine dreams being awakened in our hearts need to be fostered and fertilised. Prayer also involves times of quiet meditation and visualisation. In this way, our mind can support the process of renewal as well as sending forth messages to the angelic realms. Through Hope (the practice of prayer, meditation and visualisation), we engage with the Lord in a constructive and supportive way to build a better future for our lives, a future full of spiritual victory and loving usefulness to others. If you do not already have a daily practice of Hope (meditation and visualisation), I encourage you to do so and thereby bring in the third much-needed key to your personal and spiritual transformation.

Jeremiah 29:11-13

11 For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. 12 Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. 13 And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.

Deuteronomy 30:19

I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:

AMEN

The Months Ahead Unpacked

An explanation of the upcoming events from August to October and a little beyond

The Ten Promises

The family service in August will see us covering the Sixth promise – *We will not live in Murder, Hate or Anger for we shall be moved and motivated by Love and shall be givers of life.*

September

The Seventh Promise – *We will not suffer the pain, shame or guilt of sexual sin for we shall know Conjugal Love..*

October

The Eighth Promise – *We will not steal for we shall be givers of blessings to others.*

North-side Swedenborg Reading Group

Aug – ‘Break from Reading’

Sep - Thursday 21th

Oct – Thursday 19th

On the third Thursday evening of the month from 6pm to 7:30pm at Bracken Ridge Library, the North-side Swedenborg Reading Group meets together to discuss 'Divine Providence'. To all our north-side community (or our south-siders if you don't mind the travel), if you would like an additional spiritual boost to the month come join the stimulating discussion.

South-side Swedenborg Spiritual Support Group

Aug - Thursday 10th

Sep - Thursday 14th

Oct – Thursday 12th

Once a month, on the second Thursday evening from 6pm to 7:15pm at Capalaba Library, the South-side Swedenborg Spiritual Support Group meets together to discuss principles for spiritual stability and growth. To all our south-side community (or our north-siders if you don't mind the travel), if you would like spiritual support, come join the stimulating discussion.

Sacred Circle

August and September - The parable of the secretly growing seed (pt. 2 and pt.3).

October – The Parable of the ‘Blind leading the Blind’ (Luke 6:39)

Abiding in The Vine

August – The virtue of Cheerfulness. September – The virtue of Cleanliness. October – The Virtue of Commitment.

Annual General Meeting

October 15th – Short Service followed by the AGM meeting – 11:15am.

Reminder about the January 2018 Camp

To all our spiritual community, my hope is that you will be able to set aside some time during the first week of January 2018 for the New Church in Australia Summer Camp. It will be held at –

Alexandra Park Conference Centre, QLD
On the Sunshine Coast * 1-7 January 2018



More information can also be found at newchurch.net.au/alexandra-park-family-camp-2018

Hot Food & Birthday Cake Roster for First Sunday Lunches

Feb	Anna
March	Fran
April	Vivian
May	Renee
June	Ruth
July	Bev
Aug	Ruth
Sept	Anna
Oct	Fran
Nov	Gaye
Dec	We all pitch in for Christmas luncheon

Birthdays

To all our friends celebrating birthdays throughout these months we wish you birthday greetings and blessings.

August

2nd Julie Barns, 3rd Elijah Brunne, 6th Jenny Lee, 23rd Frances Fitzgerald, 24th Sam Field,
28th Josiah Brunne

September

3rd Harrison Glenn, 5th Diane Thompson, 16th Kimberly Tatters, 18th Ian Arnold, 21st Grace Brunne,
23rd Isabella Lee

October

5th Vivian Lawler, 11th Annabel Duff, 17th Mrs Evelyn Williams, 18th Sophia Barns, Mrs Muriel Barrett
21st Alex Lee, 23rd Matthew Heldon, 28th Ken Thompson, 30th Daniel Harry

CHURCH CONTACT DETAILS

Our services are held at our Centre – 1/24 Railway Terrace, Dutton Park.
Always check the last page in the Calendar for services.

Pastor: Rev. Darren Brunne, contactable on 0421 319 252

Treasurer: Mr Matt Heldon, contactable on 0403 384 438

Secretary: Mrs Frances Fitzgerald, contactable on 07-3356 7119 or markfitz@optusnet.com.au
Address: 49 Vale St, Wilston, Qld 4051

For activities on the Gold Coast and Mt Tamborine meetings contact Mrs Gaye Heldon on 07-5577 8772

Sunday School Co-ordinator:

Bev Sheppard, contactable on 07-38 44 71 87 or revshep@tpg.com.au



CALENDARS

Aug 2016

Sun 6th

1st SUNDAY FAMILY SERVICE including **HOLY SUPPER** led by Rev. Brunne at 10.30 a.m. *'The Sixth Promise'*

Sun 13th

Sacred Circle, 10.30 a.m.

Sun 20th

Abiding in the Vine led by Rev. Brunne.

Fri 25th

*Mt Tamborine Discussion Group
John and Lenore Sandow's House at 12pm*

Sun 27th

Free for Home Church Visitation

Sept

Sun 3rd

1st SUNDAY FAMILY SERVICE including **HOLY SUPPER** led by Rev. Brunne at 10:30am – *'The Seventh Promise'*

Sun 10th

Sacred Circle, 10.30 a.m.

Fri 22nd

*Mt Tamborine Discussion Group
John and Lenore Sandow's House at 12pm*

Sun 17th

Abiding in the Vine led by Rev. Brunne.

Sun 24th

Free for Home Church Visitation

Oct

Sun 1st

1st SUNDAY FAMILY SERVICE including **HOLY SUPPER** led by Rev. Brunne at 10.30 a.m.

Sun 8th

Sacred Circle, 10.30 a.m.

Sun 15th

Abiding in the Vine led by Rev. Brunne.
Followed by the AGM at 11:15am

Sun 22nd

No Service

Fri 27th

*Mt Tamborine Discussion Group
John and Lenore Sandow's House at 12pm*

Sun 29th

Free for Home Church Visitation