



Dear friends!

This month we will be focusing on **Growing in Maturity from Glory to Glory!**

For many of us, one of the first phrases we learned when we became a Christian was “going from glory to glory” or “from strength to strength.” It’s something Christians often say when encouraging each other, but what does it really mean?

### **1. TRANSFORMED BY HIS GLORY**

Part of God’s strategy for us is:

- TO BEHOLD HIM,
- TO BE TRANSFORMED by the Spirit of God (not through self-effort or self-improvement),
- TO EXPERIENCE HIS GLORY, and
- To go from GLORY TO GLORY!

HOW CAN WE TRANSFORM AND CHANGE?

Change comes by beholding HIM, not by doing. It is a result of intimacy with God.

*“But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.”*

II Corinthians 3:18 NKJV

This Scripture mentions, “*beholding as in a mirror.*” The verb translated “beholding” can also be translated “reflecting.” The passive and middle forms of the verb literally mean “to be mirrored.”



So...

1. We behold the glory of the Lord as if we are looking in a mirror.
2. We look closely, examining carefully the glory we see.
3. By doing so, we see God's glory and, subsequently, reflect that glory as a mirror of God's image.
4. When we see Jesus for who He is, we become Christ-centered in everything we do.
5. Change comes through the Spirit of God, not through self-effort.

The word "transformed" indicates the continual nature of our transformation, and the passive tense reveals that someone is doing the transforming for us. This means that transformation is a process!

## **2. TRANSFORMATION IS A PROCESS!**

Do you remember that phrase we mentioned earlier... *going from Glory to Glory*? It kind of sounds like we supernaturally jump from one awesome experience to the next awesome experience, doesn't it? Who wouldn't want that?

Unfortunately, between those two places of GLORY, there is a place where there is NO GLORY - a spiritual 'Ground Zero.' It's a dangerous place where we actually risk moving from a place of 'Glory to GORY' (from strength to weakness).

Here's what happens...

### **A. Declare**

Declaring means *'to make known, to formally state your intentions, or to clarify.'*

We receive a prophetic word about our lives, whether from another person or in the quietness of our own hearts. God loves to speak to His children and make known His intentions and plans for them. He declares, makes known, and clarifies His plans for our lives.



## **B. Disaster**

Then, after the prophetic word has been declared to you, in the hearing of your family, your friends, your world, and even the enemy, what often happens? It's as if the wheels fall off and everything that was going well is now a disaster. Distress. Disappointment.

The prefix 'dis' means to go in the opposite direction. Where there was unity, there is now dis-unity. Where there was like, there is now dis-like. Where there was comfort, there is now discomfort.

## **C. Development**

This is part of the process of forming a man and a woman who can be entrusted with Godly things, but we look at ourselves and feel that we have failed. There is no glory... it's just GORY.

It's in this very place of distress and discomfort that God starts to develop those parts of our character that do not glorify Him. He identifies those parts of us that are looking for the approval, praise, and accolades of men. He gives us the opportunity to look into the mirror of His Word and find ourselves lacking.

*James 1:2-4 NKJV says, "My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing."*

*God says, "You are in the process of development in order that I may bring you into the fullness of the destiny that I've got for you."*



**D. Destiny**

The Latin word ‘*destinare*’ means to ‘*make firm, establish.*’ Therefore, destination means ‘*the action of intending someone or something for a particular purpose.*’

We grow in maturity and change when we are desperate, experiencing hardship, and have come to the end of ourselves. Very little true change happens casually.

**‘Look in the mirror’ time**

We are all in the process of transformation! Can you identify where you are in the process? Why did you think so?

- Declare
- Disaster
- Development
- Destiny

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Let’s pray and ask God for a fresh desire in our hearts to BEHOLD HIM (to focus on Jesus), so that we can reflect His glory in everything that we do.

**GOD IS MOST GLORIFIED WHEN YOU ARE MOST SATISFIED IN HIM!**

Much love from,  
*Edna and the Team*