

Watch Part 1: What is the difference between transformation and transaction?



1. How would you describe the difference between a transactional relationship and a transformational relationship?
2. When you reflect on your ministry or service, what elements would you consider 'transactional'? What elements would you consider more 'transformational'? What are examples of each?
3. What are some ways you see that transactional engagements can become more transformational?
4. Read Luke 18:9-14 below:

To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: ¹⁰“Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. ¹²I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’

¹³“But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.’

¹⁴“I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

How did the Pharisee look down on the tax collector?

How does that view of people limit the opportunity for transformation?

What language do you use to describe the people who come to your service / corps for assistance? What difference does language make?

Watch Part 2: The image of God: the basis for transformation

1. How would community members experience your service for the first time? Talk about how they are welcomed.
2. How might this welcome be experienced differently by:
 - a soldier from another corps?
 - a person who has been rough sleeping?
 - a transgender person?
3. How does seeing people in the image of God affect the way we engage with community members?
4. How is this different from the way people are valued or welcomed in many parts of the community? (e.g. *people are often more valued if well educated, wealthy, uniformed, famous, professional, good looking*).



5. Read Galatians 3:28 and Genesis 1:26-28 below:

So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. (Galatians 3:26-28)

Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground."

*²⁷ So God created mankind in his own image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.
(Genesis 1:26-27)*

Watch Part 3: What does transformation look like in practice?

1. Lyn and Cameron gave examples of transformational engagement and seeing people made 'in the image of God'. What were some of those examples?
2. What changes could your ministry or service make to your practices to make them more transformational?
3. What are some of the challenges of this approach in your place?
4. What, if any, are the safety issues that might influence the way you welcome and engage with community members?



5. Read Luke 5:27-31 below.

²⁷ After this, Jesus went out and saw a tax collector by the name of Levi sitting at his tax booth. "Follow me," Jesus said to him, ²⁸ and Levi got up, left everything and followed him.

²⁹ Then Levi held a great banquet for Jesus at his house, and a large crowd of tax collectors and others were eating with them. ³⁰ But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law who belonged to their sect complained to his disciples, "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?"

How does Jesus transform the life of Levi? (*He enters his home and eats with him and his friends*).

How do the Pharisees and teachers of the law see the people Jesus is eating with? (*They see them as 'tax collectors and sinners' – people he should not eat meals with*).

Watch Part 4: What difference does the Christian faith make to our practice?

1. What difference does our Christian faith make to the way we care for those who are poor or who experience homelessness or addiction?



2. How are corps changing the way they provide emergency / financial relief to be more transformational?
3. How can we serve community members in such a way that draws people to know more about Jesus?
4. Read Luke 4:14-21 below:

Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. ¹⁵ He was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him.

¹⁶ He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

*¹⁸ "The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.*

*He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners
and recovery of sight for the blind,
to set the oppressed free,*

¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

²⁰ Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. ²¹ He began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

What did Jesus see as his transforming role in the world?

What might this mean for his church – the people of God?