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More than a
Makeover



Makeover

Comfort

DIY stores have never been busier!

Home improvement TV shows have never been more popular!

It would seem that we, as a nation, have never been so keen to change our surroundings for the better as we are today. But perhaps this is only a symptom of a much deeper need.

There's no doubt that a more attractive home makes us feel better.



Yet, neither a new colour scheme - no matter how well co-ordinated, nor a better kitchen layout - no matter how well planned, will ever get to the heart of the issue...

There's nothing wrong with wanting to create a comfortable home, but how easily we can take this to excess. Instead of being our 'servant', our homes can become our 'master'... flying in the face of the One who says...

You shall have no other gods before me.

Exodus 20:3

And many of us feel driven to improve our outward circumstances because, if we were to be truly honest, we're far from at ease with our inward selves. Our basic self-centred nature can prevent us living up to even our own standards...



I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do but what I hate I do... I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out... the evil I do not want to do - this I keep on doing.

Romans 7:15, 18-19

Thankfully, God has planned a wonderful solution...



Decor

Just as many modern techniques can hide ugly features of our home, so we can easily apply the same principle to our lives.

We may be able to kid our friends, our family and even ourselves into believing we're a nicer person than we really are, but we can never

deceive the One whose judgement matters more than any other...

People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.

1 Samuel 16:7

It's been said that, 'The heart of the human problem is the problem of the human heart', and in our own strength we're powerless to do anything about this... leaving us facing a fearful future...

...people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment.

Hebrews 9:27

We need more than simply a moral makeover!

Achievement

We can get a real sense of achievement having redecorated the kids' bedroom and seeing how pleased they are. But the greatest achievement of them all took place 2,000 years ago on a barren hillside called Calvary. Also motivated by love, God sent His Son, Christ Jesus, to die taking the punishment for all our wrong-doing...

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son...

John 3:16

You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.

Romans 5:6



But the benefits of this are not forced upon us. To 'get right' with God we must, with His help, turn away from all we know to be wrong. And in seeking forgiveness and asking the risen Christ Jesus into our lives as Saviour and Lord we're given a brand new start...

...if anyone is in Christ, that person is a new creation. The old has gone, the new is here!

2 Corinthians 5:17

Cost



This is no self-improvement plan but the only way to peace with God, with one another and with ourselves. The Lord Jesus says...

I am the way and the truth and the life. No-one comes to the Father except through me.

John 14:6

And although the 'price' of all this has been paid on our behalf, there is

nevertheless a 'cost' which the Lord Jesus asks of all those who would be His true followers... the cost of commitment...

Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it.

Luke 9:23-24



Light

We all know that good lighting is vitally important. And of course, this is true, not only in terms of our homes, but also in the wider aspects of our daily living.

In a day when different philosophies abound... when hopes and dreams can be dashed to pieces... when lasting relationships are so hard to sustain... the Lord Jesus is still...

The true light that gives light to everyone...

John 1:9

He reaches out to us offering true fulfilment, everlasting security and real freedom from the tyranny of self...

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

Matthew 11:28

Yet how easy it is to reject or ignore Him... the consequences of which are surely unthinkable...

Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already...

John 3:18

The next step is yours!