



### **Let the Games Begin, Pt. 1: The Change Game**

We all love games, but playing games in relationships is dangerous. Approaching relationships as though someone has to win and someone has to lose is a bad idea. One game we tend to play in our relationships is The Change Game. There's nothing more toxic to a relationship than secretly trying to change the other person. It feels awful. It doesn't work. And it will eventually destroy the relationship. But, what might God be up to when we notice a change that someone else may need to make?

**Bottomline:** The change you want to see in someone else may be a cue that God wants to see that change in you.

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. Talk about a time when you worked to change something about yourself, large or small. What did you do to try to change? What happened?
2. Has someone ever tried to change you in a relationship? If so, how did you respond? How did it affect the relationship?
3. **Read Romans 14:1.** Paul talks about a person "whose faith is weak." In other words, there may be room for growth in their life. Then Paul says not to argue about "disputable matters" (NIV). If there are "disputable matters" then there must also be "indisputable matters." Give examples of both with which you have dealt.
4. **Read Romans 5:6-8.** Before we could make any improvements, Christ died for us. He accepted us right where we were in the middle of our sin. What risks are involved in accepting a person rather than trying to change him or her?
5. What are some things you tend to want to change in others? What do you think that says about what God may want to change in you?
6. Is there someone in your life that you're trying to change? If so, what can you do to begin to accept that person? How can this group support you?
7. What was the most challenging idea/thought from the message this week?
8. What has been the most helpful thought/idea from the message this week? How has that thought/idea helped you?
9. How can the group encourage you this week?