

Bat12 - **Renew Your Mind/Transform Your Life – Rom 12:1-2**

ONE of the **things** that I have **struggled MOST** with
in **23 years** of Formal **Church Leadership**

Is **HOW** to help people **ACTUALLY BE TRANSFORMED** –
in a **PRACTICAL** Sense – **By their FAITH** in Jesus Christ

After My **PRAYERS** for God's **GRACE** to **Continue** Serving Him
& for **God's Protection** over my **Family**

One of the things I've **Asked God MOST** for over the years . . .
is – **What about The HOW**

HOW God ?? – **HOW** do I help people **ACTUALLY**
have their lives **Truly TRANSFORMED** - by their **Faith** in You

Transformed in a Real, Tangible, Radical Way

Romans 12:1-2 has been a **Battle Cry** for me – **all** my ministry **yrs**
But **we'll look only** at **One Section** today

In the ESV it says - Romans 12:2(a) (ESV)
**2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the
renewal of your mind . . .**

This is the **Key Section** in these vs's **abut** our **Transformation**
& there's **much more** that **goes WITH** this statement

But **THIS** is the **section** – we're **going** to **DIVE INTO** Today

Be Transformed – BY – Renewing Your Mind

We have **always Held Up HIGH** the Truth – that **if Jesus Christ** is **Genuinely LIVING** with **Full Reign** in our lives . . .

That **WE** will **Absolutely** - be **Progressively**
BEING TRANSFORMED into **HIS Image**

HOWEVER . . . The **THING** that **gets** in the **Way**
of God **Progressively TRANSFORMING** Us . . .

That **THING** that is the **HURDLE** – To our **Transformation**

That **THING** that is the **STUMBLING BLOCK** To our **Transformation**

That **THING** that is the **REASON** for our **LACK** of **Transformation** . . .

Is US !!

The **Problem** is - **WE** have a **ROLE** - in **whether** our **lives** are going to
Be Transformed by the **Life of Christ** in us – or **NOT**

WE have a **ROLE** - & **WE** are the **WEAK LINK** in the **Process**

& so **today** – we're **gonna talk** about **How** we can **JOIN GOD**
in Him **Actually Transformation** our **Lives** - ok?

Let's Pray

Last week – In our **Continuing** study of the **ARMOR**
for **The Spiritual Battle** –

We **looked** at **The Helmet of Salvation** – (*Salvation for your Mind*)

& the **FOCUS Statement** – we made **over & over again** - was

WHERE you Set Your Mind - Is WHERE you GO

& we talked about how there is
One RESULT of your Salvation - DESIGNED to

RENEW Your MIND & Transform Your Life

We laid out the 3 RESULTS (Areas)
of your SINGULAR SALVATION

JUSTIFICATION - the INITIAL Result

SANCTIFICATION - the ONGOING Result

GLORIFICATION - the FINAL Result

& we spent a LOT of time on that 2nd RESULT - SANCTIFICATION

SANCTIFICATION is the part of your Salvation - where your Life
is ACTUALLY TRANSFORMED by your Faith in Christ

& Right THERE – is where we need to ask the HOW

HOW do I DO THIS?

HOW do I grow in this SANCTIFICATION area?

SO THAT I can live a Truly Transformed Life in Jesus Christ

THAT – is where we're going Today - - To The HOW

CONSIDER THIS . . .

In Regard to our Ongoing Spiritual Battle

In Ephesians 6:10 – We are Commanded to (NLT)
10 . . . Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.

BE STRONG in The Lord . . . **BUT** - - **HOW** do you **GET STRONG??**
What is **REQUIRED** for you to **BECOME STRONG** in the Lord?

I **know** a **LOT** of Christians who **KNOW** a **LOT** of **Bible Truths**
about **The Gospel** – **Salvation** - **Faith** - & **Trust in God** . . .

But they are **still very, very WEAK** - when it **comes**
to **Actually Living** a **Truly Transformed Life**

AFTER you **KNOW** the Truths of the Gospel
WHAT is **Required** for you to **BECOME STRONG** in those Truths?
& **WHAT** is **Required** for you to **STAY STRONG** in those Truths?

Repeatedly in the **N.T.** – Paul **uses** the **ATHLETE** to **illustrate**
what is Required for us to **BE STRONG** in the Lord

1 Corinthians 9:25–27 (NLT)

25 All athletes are disciplined in their training. They do it to win a prize that will fade away, but we do it for an eternal prize.

26 So I run with purpose in every step. I am not just shadowboxing.

27 I discipline my body like an athlete, training it to do what it should . . .

ALL Athletes KNOW – In Order to BE STRONG for the Race

There are **things** you must **DO HABITUALLY**
& **things** you must **ELIMINATE HABITUALLY**

IN the Same way – For us to **BE STRONG** in the Lord
& **STAY STRONG** in the Lord . . .

Charles Stanley – Says THIS → →

**Charles Stanley – in his book on The Spiritual Disciplines:
*We must take into our lives those things that produce [spiritual] strength in us, and eliminate those things that result in weakness, laziness, or spiritual compromise.***

We **MUST Learn** how to **TAKE INTO** our lives
those **things** that **Produce SPIRITUAL STRENGTH**
& **MUST Learn** how to **ELIMINATE** from our **lives**
Those **things** that **Produce SPIRITUAL DEFEAT**

THIS Requires RE-TRAINING Our BRAIN

THIS Requires

RENEWING Our MIND – to Truly BE TRANSFORMED

In order to **BE STRONG** in the Lord

In order to **STAY STRONG** in the Lord

In order to **Actually BE TRANSFORMED** by our Faith in Jesus

We Must **Train Ourselves For Godliness**

Paul says to young Timothy in 1 Timothy 4:7 (ESV)

7 Have nothing to do with irreverent, silly myths. Rather train yourself for godliness;

& **THAT** is what **We've GOT To Do** – If we **truly want** to

RENEW Our MIND – in order to Truly BE TRANSFORMED

TRAINING – NOT TRYING - Develop

BUT . . . Let me **PAUSE right here** – For some **Brief Explanation**
Before we Jump into **THE HOW**

FIRST – **When we talk** about **training ourselves for godliness**

We are **NOT Talking** about
Some Set of **Legalistic DEMANDS**

that we **Must ACHIEVE** - in order to **EARN** some type of
Religious Position or **Gold Star** from God

This is **NOT** about **DOING MORE** – **ACHIEVING MORE** -
or **BEING BETTER** at **LOOKING** Like a **Christian**

This is **about Learning How** to Allow the **Life of Jesus Christ** to
WELL UP inside you - Until it **BURSTS Out** in a **Transformed Life**

***This is NOT about Legalistic Effort - It's about
Growing IN a Supernatural Relationship with Jesus***

NEXT - A **PENDULUM** (of sorts) has **developed**
in **our part** of **Evangelical Christianity** . . .

Regarding the **area** that has been **Traditionally Called**
The Spiritual Disciplines

There are some who **have taken** the **“Spiritual Disciplines”** **too far**
& have **gone into Eastern Mysticism**
& **other** really **non-biblical stuff**

& we **DO NEED** to be **careful** about the **Non-Biblical Stuff**

That's ONE SIDE . . .

But **THEN** there are **Also** the **Evangelical Watch Dogs**
Who **attack anyone** who **uses** the phrase "**Spiritual Disciplines**"

Assuming that if **someone** uses **that phrase** - they **must** be
referring to the **Non-Biblical stuff** that some are teaching

The Devil of course **LOVES BOTH** of these **Extremes**

Because his only goal is to keep Christians, **WEAK, DEFEATED,**
& (**most of all**) - **AWAY** from the **INTIMATE PRESENCE** of **GOD**

Which is What **BOTH the Extreme Views** Do

So – Just to be Clear . . .

I am **NOT talking** about the **Non-Biblical Stuff** that is **currently** being
associated with the phrase "**Spiritual Disciplines**" in **some circles**

I am **talking** about the **PURELY BIBLICAL** "**Training For Godliness**"

& **Biblical** "**Training For Godliness**" – is **ABSOLUTELY** what
Creates **Truly TRANSFORMED** Followers of **Jesus Christ**

Which is **WHY** the **Enemy** does **WHATEVER He CAN**
In **ANY WAY He can** – to **Keep You** from these **Great Truths**

Because Biblical "**Training For Godliness**" - will **Absolutely**
Bring **Real, Lasting, Radical TRANSFORMATION** into your life

Which will be a **Huge DEFEAT** for your **Enemy**

So – **Let's** just **LIST** the **Primary - BIBLICAL** areas
We would **consider** "**Training for Godliness**"

Meaning the **Areas** that **IF** you will **set yourself to GROW IN**

Your **MIND will Be Renewed** - & **Your Life will be Transformed**

HOWEVER - this is **NOT** some kind of **Mandatory List**
that you **MUST begin doing** to **Get an "A" with God**

These are the **areas** where we **Truly Meet God** -

& **where** we **Build** a **Personal Relationship** with **Jesus Christ**
that will **Truly TRANSFORM our Lives**

Training For Godliness

- 1) **Meditating on God's Word** (In our Quiet Time)
- 2) **Taking In God's Word** (by any other means)
- 3) **Prayer** (Aligned with God's Word)
- 4) **Worship**
- 5) **Fasting**
- 6) **Serving**
- 7) **Giving**
- 8) **Discipleship**
- 9) **Perseverance**

This is **NOT** a **Definitive or Complete List**
It's just to **Make it CLEAR** . . .

There are **many ways** (& in many areas) **that God**
RENEWS our MINDS - & **TRANSFORMS our LIVES**

& in **EA of these areas** – The **Holy Spirit TRAINS You for Godliness**

So – Let’s Look at the HOW
in Just ONE of these areas today

But KNOW - there IS a HOW – in EACH of these areas -
you just have to “Set Yourself” to Learning it

The area we’ll do the HOW in today – is MY Personal Favorite –
Meditating on God’s Word

I believe - The ‘Training’ God puts us through
during our (correctly approached) QUIET TIME with Him – is . . .

- 1) The Most IMPORTANT of all the Training
- 2) The Most TRANSFORMING of all the Training

Our Minds are RENEWED - & our Lives are TRANSFORMED

AS we REST in God’s Presence

AS we are IMMERSED in our Relationship with Him

I DO Realize – that different people (personality types) will be drawn
to Different “Areas” of Training for Godliness

THAT is why God RENEWS our MINDS & TRANSFORMS our Lives
in EACH of these Training Areas

BUT – Learning to Spend Time Alone with God

Meditating on His Word

& then Learning to PRAY & WORSHIP in His Word

I believe is foundational for Every Relationship with Jesus

So – THE HOW – of Meditating on God’s Word

I’ve taught the Scriptural Background & Focus for this
in Numerous Messages – So I can’t teach it again here

***GET - The first 2 msgs in The Fundamentals Series
“Abide in the Word” – in the Abide Series***

But right now – We’re just going to pull out our SECRET WEAPON
to help people LEARN HOW to do this - & Go Thru it

It’s Called “The Daily Devotion Journal” - & there was One
on your SEAT when you came in today

For the W-B-M Family - & those Watching/Listening Later
There will BE ONE – IN the NOTES on Website of Ph App

REVIEW DDJ – AND Instructions

Romans 12:1–2 (NLT)

1 And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him.

2 Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God’s will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

EXTRA’S → → →

Joshua 1:8 (NLT)

8 Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do.

ESV = ***so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it***

2 Corinthians 3:18 (ESV)

18 And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

**We need to TRAIN OURSELVES to Live
in DAILY DEVOTION to Jesus Christ**

**Not JUST in Meditating on His Word
But LIVING in Devotion to Him - in ALL that we do**

Raising Babies at Home

Taxing Teenagers around the World

Working at a Job in the World

Or anything else we find ourselves doing

Our **Daily Devotion** can be in the **Midst** of **Whatever** it is we're **doing**
We **can** Live "**Right There**" in **Devotion to God**

As we TRAIN Ourselves to DO THAT

God will **RENEW Our Minds**

& **BY Renewing our MINDS** – **God will TRANSFORM Our Lives**