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The 5 Thinking Strategies That Will Change Your Life In Jesus Christ

Week 6

RENEW YOUR MIND WITH **COMMITMENT** THINKING

*²¹ Those who make themselves clean from all those evil things, will be used for special purposes, because they are **DEDICATED** and useful to their Master, ready to be used for every good deed.*

(2 Timothy 2:21) GNT



RENEW YOUR MIND WITH COMMITMENT THINKING

JAMES 1:22-25

(This passage of Scripture is taken from several English translations to give deeper meaning and insight)

1

²² Do not merely listen to God's Word, and so deceive (*fool*) yourselves. **Do** (*obey and practice*) **what God's Word says.**

2

²³ Anyone who listens to God's Word **but does not do what His Word says** is like someone who looks at their face in a mirror ²⁴ and after looking at themselves walks away and **immediately forgets** what they look like.



3

²⁵ But whoever **looks intently** (*with intention, purpose, and aim*) into God's perfect law that gives freedom, and **continues in it** (*consistently*) - **not forgetting** what they have heard, **but doing it** (*obeying it and practicing it*) - **They will be blessed** (*favored and happy*) **in what they do.**



1 Renew Your Mind With **COMMITMENT** Thinking By _____
What God's Word Says!

JAMES 1:22

²² Do not merely listen to God's Word, and so deceive (*fool*) yourselves. **Do** (*obey and practice*) **what God's Word says.**

COMMITMENT THINKING IS

DEDICATING MY LIFE TO SERVING GOD

DEDICATE: Devote **oneself** to a particular task or purpose in service to God //
DEVOTE, *commit, pledge, give, surrender, sacrifice*

¹ So then, my friends, because of God's great mercy to us I appeal to you: Offer yourselves as a living sacrifice to God, **DEDICATED** to his service and pleasing to him. This is the true worship that you should offer.

(Romans 12:1) GNT

Your Dedication to God is Closely Connected to Your Gratitude to God!

....⁴⁷ (Jesus said) "I tell you, her sins—and they are many—have been forgiven, so she has shown me much love. **But a person who is forgiven little shows only little love.**" (Luke 7:44-47) NLT

COMMITMENT THINKING IS

TAKING RESPONSIBILITY FOR NURTURING MY GROWTH



RESPONSIBILITY: Having a duty to deal with and oversee something or someone // DUTY, task, function, job, role, business

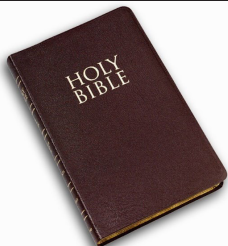
NURTURE: Care for and encourage the growth or development of // BRING UP- care for / CULTIVATE- grow, tend / ENCOURAGE- stimulate, develop

² Like newborn babies, **YOU MUST CRAVE** pure spiritual milk so that you will grow into a full experience of salvation. **CRY OUT FOR THIS NOURISHMENT**,
³ now that you have had a taste of the Lord's kindness. (1 Peter 2:2-3) NLT

¹² By now you should have been teachers, but once again you need to be taught the simplest things about what God has said. You need milk instead of solid food. ¹³ People who live on milk are like babies who don't really know what is right. ¹⁴ **Solid food is for mature people WHO HAVE BEEN TRAINED to know right from wrong.** (Hebrews 5:12-14) CEV

COMMITMENT THINKING IS

PRACTICING OBEDIENCE BY APPLYING GOD'S WORD



PRACTICE: The actual application or use of a principle as opposed to theories about such application or use // CARRY OUT, perform, observe

²⁴ (Jesus said) "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and **PUTS THEM INTO PRACTICE** is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.
²⁵ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.

²⁶ But everyone who hears these words of mine and **DOES NOT PUT THEM INTO PRACTICE** is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. ²⁷ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash." (Matthew 7:24-27) NIV

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1 Renew Your Mind With **COMMITMENT** Thinking By **DOING** What God's Word Says!

- (Review, meditate and pray) What did God teach you from this section of the study?
- Journal your thoughts and emotions about **DOING** what God's Word says.
- Share one lesson or insight you will apply and practice in your personal life.

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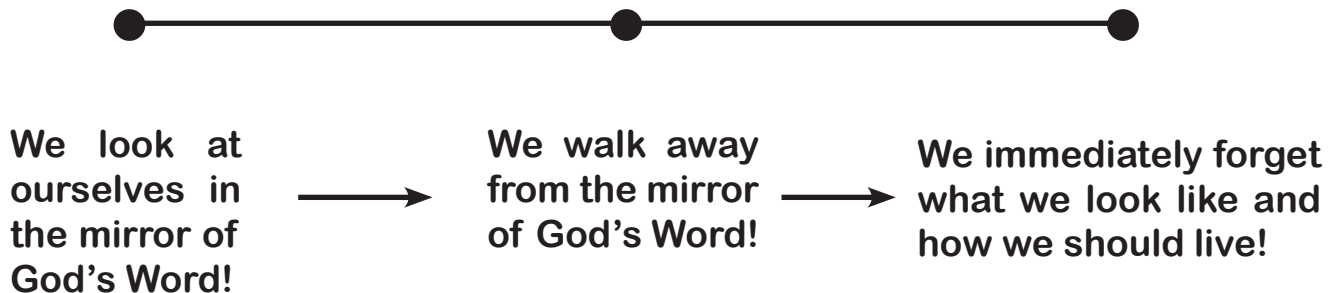
2

Renew Your Mind With **COMMITMENT** Thinking By
_____ Why We Forget To Obey
God's Word!

JAMES 1:23-24

²³ Anyone who listens to God's Word **but does not do what His Word says** is like someone who looks at their face in a mirror ²⁴ and after looking at themselves walks away and **immediately forgets** what they look like.

WHAT IS THE DISCONNECT IN OUR OBEDIENCE TO GOD'S WORD?



WHY DO WE FORGET GOD'S WORD?

DISTRACTIONS!

The Parable of the Sower

A HARD HEART!

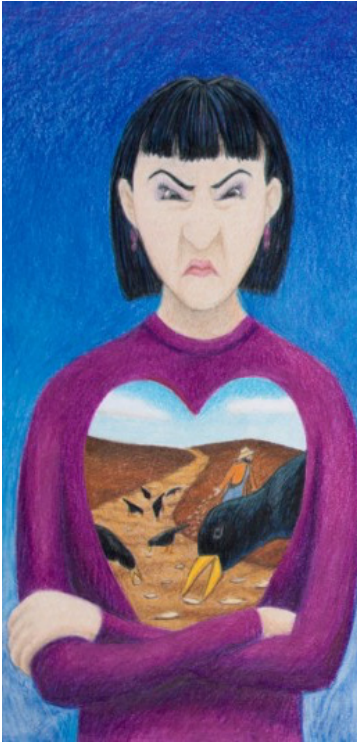
We are **distracted** by a **HARD HEART** because of our growing bitterness from life's hurts, disappointments, and struggles and as a result, the enemy is able to steal God's truths and life lessons from our hearts.

¹¹ "This is the meaning of the parable: **The seed is God's word.**"

(Luke 8:11) NLT

¹⁹ The seed that fell on the footpath represents those who **hear the message about the Kingdom and don't understand it**. Then the evil one comes and snatches away the seed that was planted in their hearts. (Matthew 13:19) NLT

Rebecca Brogan

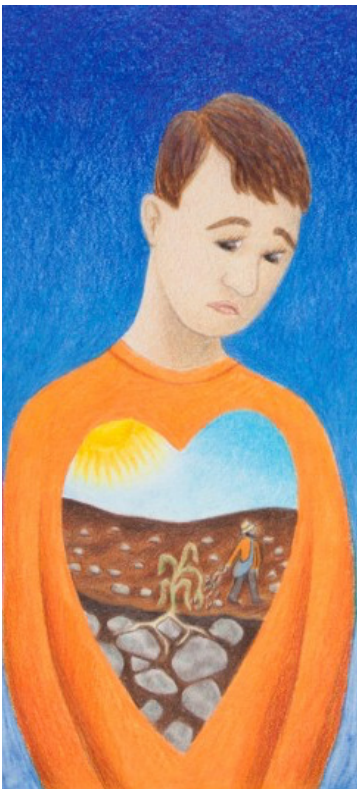


A SHALLOW HEART!

We are **distracted** by a **SHALLOW HEART** because we are driven by our emotions. As a result, we feel discouraged when we experience problems or are persecuted because of our faith. In the end, we give up on following Jesus because we feel like God doesn't love us or care about what we are going through in life.

²⁰ The seed on the rocky soil represents those who **hear the message and immediately receive it with joy**. ²¹ But since they don't have deep roots, they don't last long. They fall away as soon as they have problems or are persecuted for believing God's word. (Matthew 13:20-21) NLT

Rebecca Brogan





A FEARFUL HEART!

We are **distracted** by a **FEARFUL HEART** because of the worries, doubts, fears, and worldly temptations we face. As we follow Jesus, we allow these worries, doubts, fears, and world temptations to choke out any progress or growth in our life. The final result is that we bear no fruit.

¹⁸ The seed that fell among the thorns represents others who **hear God's word**, ¹⁹ **but all too quickly the message is crowded out by the worries of this life, the lure of wealth, and the desire for other things**, so no fruit is produced. (Mark 4:18-19) NLT



A FRUITFUL HEART!

We are **distracted** by a **FRUITFUL HEART** when we **FORGET** that every blessing, harvest, and fruit that He has grown in our life comes from Him.

"Remember the Lord your God. He is the one who gives you power to be successful..." (Deuteronomy 8:18)

*"Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For **apart from me you can do nothing**."* (John 15:5).

²³ The seed that fell on good soil represents those **who truly hear and understand God's word and produce a harvest of thirty, sixty, or even a hundred times as much as had been planted!**

(Matthew 13:8, 23) NLT

HOW DO WE DEAL WITH DISTRACTION?



- God is Eternal!

⁸ *"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty."*
(Revelation 1:8) NIV

- Our Relationship with God is Eternal!

³ *Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.*
(John 17:3) NIV

- God's Kingdom is Eternal!

¹³ *Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures through all generations.* (Psalm 145:13) NIV

- Those Who Don't Believe in Jesus Christ Will Also Live Eternally!

⁴⁶ *"Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."* (John 17:3) NIV

- God's Word is Eternal!

³⁵ *Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.* (Matthew 24:35) NIV

¹⁵ *Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire.* (Revelation 20:15) NIV

- Christians Have Eternal Life!

³⁶ *Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on them.* (John 3:36) NIV

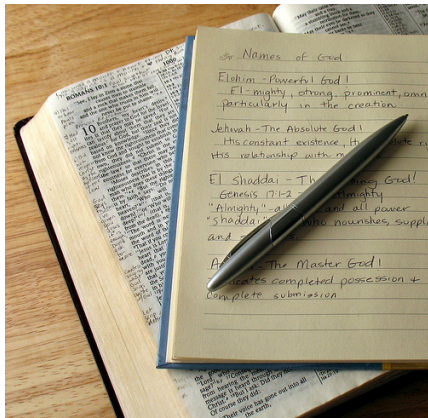
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2 Renew Your Mind With **COMMITMENT** Thinking By **UNDERSTANDING** Why We Forget To Obey God's Word!

- (Review, meditate and pray) What did God teach you from this section of the study?
- Journal your thoughts and emotions about **UNDERSTANDING** why we forget to obey God's Word.
- Share one lesson or insight you will apply and practice in your personal life.

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3

Renew Your Mind With **COMMITMENT** Thinking By
Your Transformation Plan!

JAMES 1:25

²⁵ But whoever **looks intently** (*with intention, purpose, and aim*) into God's perfect law that gives freedom, and **continues in it** (*consistently*) - **not forgetting** what they have heard, **but doing it** (*obeying it and practicing it*) - **They will be blessed** (*favored and happy*) **in what they do.**

1. Looks Intently...

2. Continues in It...

MY 4-PART TRANSFORMATION PLAN

(James 1:25)



3. Not Forgetting...

4. Doing It...

MY 4-PART TRANSFORMATION PLAN



But whoever **looks intently** (*with intention, purpose, and aim*) into God's perfect law that gives freedom...

1. BE INTENTIONAL in God's Word

⁵ *The purposes in the human mind are like deep water, but **the intelligent will draw them out.*** (Proverbs 20:5) NRSV

...and **continues in it** (*consistently*)...



2. BE CONSISTENT in God's Word

⁸ *Study this Book of Instruction **continually.** Meditate on it **day and night...*** (Joshua 1:8) NLT



...**not forgetting** what they have heard...

3. **BE REFLECTIVE** in God's Word

² *Rather, he delights in the teachings of the Lord and **reflects on his teachings day and night.*** ³ *He is like a tree planted beside streams— a tree that produces fruit in season and whose leaves do not wither...* (Psalm 1:2-3) NLT



...**but doing it** (*obeying it and practicing it*)...

4. **BE OBEDIENT** in God's Word

²³ *Jesus replied, "**All who love me will do what I say.** My Father will love them, and we will come and make our home with each of them."* ²⁴ ***Anyone who doesn't love me will not obey me.** And remember, my words are not my own. What I am telling you is from the Father who sent me...* (John 14:23-24) NLT

WHAT ARE THE RESULTS OF MY TRANSFORMATION PLAN?

They will be blessed (*favored and happy*)
in what they do.



A RENEW AND TRANSFORMED MIND



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3 Renew Your Mind With **COMMITMENT** Thinking By **WORKING** Your Transformation Plan!

- *(Review, meditate and pray)* What did God teach you from this section of the study?
- Journal your thoughts and emotions about **WORKING** your transformation plan.
- Share one lesson or insight you will apply and practice in your personal life.

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