<u>A Transformed Perspective For You!</u> November 2, 2025 The Power of Replacing Your Perspective, With God's Perspective!

Isaiah 55:8a (NLT) 8 "My thoughts are nothing like your thoughts," says the Lord.

Two Perspectives of Repentance...

Luke 15:11–32 (NLT) *Parable of the Lost Son* ¹¹ To illustrate the point further, Jesus told them this story: "A man had two sons. ¹² The younger son told his father, 'I want my share of your estate now before you die.' So his father agreed to divide his wealth between his sons.

¹³ "A few days later this younger son packed all his belongings and moved to a distant land, and there he wasted all his money in wild living. ¹⁴ About the time his money ran out, a great famine swept over the land, and he began to starve. ¹⁵ He persuaded a local farmer to hire him, and the man sent him into his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶ The young man became so hungry that even the pods he was feeding the pigs looked good to him. But no one gave him anything.

¹⁷ "When he finally came to his senses, he said to himself, 'At home even the hired servants have food enough to spare, and here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸ I will go home to my father and say, "Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, ¹⁹ and I am no longer worthy of being called your son. Please take me on as a hired servant."

²⁰ "So he returned home to his father. And while he was still a long way off, his father saw him coming. Filled with love and compassion, he ran to his son, embraced him, and kissed him. ²¹ His son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, and I am no longer worthy of being called your son.'

²² "But his father said to the servants, 'Quick! Bring the finest robe in the house and put it on him. Get a ring for his finger and sandals for his feet. ²³ And kill the calf we have been fattening. We must celebrate with a feast, ²⁴ for this son of mine was dead and has now returned to life. He was lost, but now he is found.' So the party began.

²⁵ "Meanwhile, the older son was in the fields working. When he returned home, he heard music and dancing in the house, ²⁶ and he asked one of the servants what was going on. ²⁷ 'Your brother is back,' he was told, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf. We are celebrating because of his safe return.'

²⁸ "The older brother was angry and wouldn't go in. His father came out and begged him, ²⁹ but he replied, 'All these years I've slaved for you and never once refused to do a single thing you told me to. And in all that time you never gave me even one young goat for a feast with my friends. ³⁰ Yet when this son of yours comes back after squandering your money on prostitutes, you celebrate by killing the fattened calf!'

³¹ "His father said to him, 'Look, dear son, you have always stayed by me, and everything I have is yours. ³² We had to celebrate this happy day. For your brother was dead and has come back to life! He was lost, but now he is found!' "

Acts 16:16–36 (NLT) *Paul and Silas in Prison* ²⁵ Around midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening. ²⁶ Suddenly, there was a massive earthquake, and the

prison was shaken to its foundations. All the doors immediately flew open, and the chains of every prisoner fell off! ²⁷ The jailer woke up to see the prison doors wide open. He assumed the prisoners had escaped, so he drew his sword to kill himself. ²⁸ But Paul shouted to him, "Stop! Don't kill yourself! We are all here!" ²⁹ The jailer called for lights and ran to the dungeon and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas.

A Few Examples - God has a different perspective than we do:

- **People Not Following God** sheep without a shepherd
- **Joseph** one unfair hardship after another for a purpose. **Genesis 50:20 (NLT)Joseph spoke this to his brothers that sold him into slavery...** ²⁰ You intended to harm me, but God intended it all for good. He brought me to this position so I could save the lives of many people.
- Gideon God called him a mighty warrior as he hid in a wine press

Isaiah 55:8–9 (NLT) ⁸ "My thoughts are nothing like your thoughts," says the Lord. "And my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine. ⁹ For just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so my ways are higher than your ways and my thoughts higher than your thoughts.

Romans 12:1-2 (NLT) A Living Sacrifice to God

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. ²Don'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.

Proverbs 14:12 (NLT) ¹² There is a path before each person that seems right, but it ends in death.

It's Okay that God's perspective is superior to ours.

His perspective is:

- Infinite: His thoughts and ways are limitless compared to our finite human understanding.
- **Holistic:** He sees the entire, completed picture of life, not just isolated pieces of the puzzle.
- **Eternal:** He operates with an eternal view, understanding the ultimate purpose behind all events.
- **Heart-Focused:** He values inner character and sees the potential in people that they may not see in themselves.

A Few Areas Where A Changed Perspective Can Transform Life:

- 1. Time With God Prayer, worship, communion, study of the Word
- 2. Studying God's Word
- 3. Being Led By The Holy Spirit Romans 8:14 (NLT) ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.
- 4. Truly Connecting To Church Family
 - **John 17:20–21 (NLT)** ²⁰ "I am praying not only for these disciples but also for all who will ever believe in me through their message. ²¹ I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one—as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me.
- 5. Your Life & Challenges

1 John 2:15–17 (NLT) Do Not Love This World

Matthew 6:33 (NLT) ³³ Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need.

6. Your Purpose

Book - The first sentence of Rick Warren's *The Purpose Driven Life* is, "It's not about you".

7. Interacting With Others

Matthew 22:37–40 (NLT) ³⁷ Jesus replied, "'You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.' ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' ⁴⁰ The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments."

Matthew 5:44–45a (NLT) ⁴⁴ But I say, love your enemies! Pray for those who persecute you! ⁴⁵ In that way, you will be acting as true children of your Father in heaven.

God, Help Me See What You See!

See from God's perspective – it's different than yours!

Put on God's Glasses.

How To Transform our Perspective?

- 1. Ask God to Align Our Perspective With His
- 2. <u>Discipline</u> Ourselves To Notice Our Perspective vs. God's Perspective.
- 3. Study, Understand, & Remember the Word
- 4. Be Led By The Holy Spirit

Experience the Power of changed perspective!

Prayer or Discussion Questions For The Week!

- 1. Analyze your perspective for one week very intentionally. Does your perspective align with God's perspective?
- 2. (Does your Perspective Align with God?:)
 - If yes, very good. Keep it that way over time as you move forward.
 - If no, good news. Your perspective can get much better! Some of your problems are about to melt away! Other priorities of God that may have been too low, can begin to be elevated to the proper place.
- 3. Are you intentional about learning God's perspective on things?
- 4. Practice putting on "the glasses of God's perspective" regarding your life and your problems.
- 5. Also, practice putting on the glasses of God's perspective regarding other people.