



Sermon Summary – June 9, 2024

Renewing Your Mind Romans 12:1, 2

Do Not Conform to this Age

Christians have always lived in an age (world, culture, generation) that tries to exclude God from life (see 1 John 2:15). In the midst of living in this environment, the culture with the help of Satan's lies is constantly trying to make us conform to its values, beliefs and ideas. Satan first did this to Adam and Eve and he is still using the same tactic today. (1) Get us to doubt God's Word (Gen 3:1, 4); (2) Get us to doubt God's goodness (Gen 3:5); (3) Show us the pleasure of sin while ignoring the consequences of sin (Gen 3:6).

Some Say (The Lies of this Age)

Satan didn't stop in the garden. Every age has its own lies that express beliefs that are contrary to God's truth. Philosophies and "isms" come and go, but God's truth never changes. In VBS this week, the children were given God's truth to confront these five lies many in our culture believe. (1) Truth can be different for different people. (2) Do what makes you happy. (3) Being a good person gets you into heaven. (4) There are many ways to heaven. (5) If you don't agree with me, you don't love me. Jesus also had to correct the false teaching of his day. Six times in the Sermon on the Mount Jesus said, "You have heard it said..." (Matt 5:21; 5:27; 5:31; 5:33; 5:38; 5:43).

But I Tell You

After Jesus said, "You have heard it said," he said, "But I tell you." The children learned this week the five truths that counteract the lies of this age. (1) Some say truth can be different for different people, but God says truth comes from me. (2) Some say do what makes you happy, but God says my plan is better. (3) Some say being a good person gets you into heaven, but God says everyone needs a Savior. (4) Some say there are many ways to heaven, but God says Jesus is the only way to heaven. (5) Some say if you don't agree with me, you don't love me, but God says speak the truth in love.

Be Transformed

Instead of being conformed to this age, we are transformed by the renewing of our minds. That begins with knowing and understanding the truth of God. But it also includes the doing of God's truth. This is how we are the living sacrifices that Paul speaks of in verse one. Knowing and doing what God tells us transforms our minds so that we can know what God's good, pleasing and perfect will is. Satan wants us to doubt God's Word and His will. Yet, God's will is good, pleasing, and perfect. Jesus concluded the Sermon on the Mount with the illustration of the wise and foolish builders. Those who act on God's truth will be blessed and stand strong against the lies of this age.