

I. Review – *Greater Things*

A. John 14:12 (NKJV) – *“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father”*

John 14:12 (AMP) – *I assure you and most solemnly say to you, anyone who believes in Me [as Savior] will also do the things that I do; and he will do even greater things than these [in extent and outreach], because I am going to the Father*

John 14:12 (CEV) – *I tell you for certain that if you have faith in me, you will do the same things I am doing. You will do even greater things, now that I am going back to the Father*

B. Previous Sessions

1. Session 1 – Understanding Greater Things

- a. Jesus was speaking of greater things that would come to those who are *BORN-AGAIN. The New Creation – The New Man*
- b. Because we are born again – we can expect greater things than those who lived prior to the new covenant in Christ.

2. Session 2 – Greater Things – Greater Thinking

- a. Greater Things begin with Greater Thinking.
- b. New creation thinking.
- c. Allowing our thoughts to ascend to a higher level.
- d. Our thinking regarding our identity – who I am.
- e. Our thinking regarding our abilities – God working through us.
- f. You never rise higher than your thoughts.
- g. As a man thinketh in his heart so is he.
- h. **Proverbs 23:7b (KJV)** – *as he thinketh in his heart, so is he.*
Proverbs 23:7b (GNT) – *What he thinks is what he really is.*

II. Building your New Self-Image

Now that you are new, you must begin to develop a new self image that agrees with the new you – Who and What God says you are!

A. When we get saved, spiritually everything changes.

- 1. Unrighteous to Righteous**
- 2. Slave to Free**
- 3. Servants to Sons and Daughters**
- 4. From the kingdom of darkness to the Kingdom of God**
- 5. Inwardly – spiritually we are changed.**
- 6. Positionally, we are changed – we now have granted access to the presence of God.**
- 7. Status is changed – to children of God.**

B. Because we still live in a body and still have the connection to our natural mind that was trained in this world's ways of thinking there is an ongoing contrast between the spirit and the flesh.

Galatians 5:16-17 (NKJV) – ¹⁶I say then: **Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.** ¹⁷For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; **and these are contrary to one another**, so that you do not do the things that you wish.

Galatians 5:16 (GNT) – *What I say is this: let the Spirit direct your lives, and you will not satisfy the desires of the human nature.*

- 1. HUMAN NATURE** – the ways of thinking and acting relating to all human beings. *Connects directly to our five natural senses.*

2. Notice – *Paul states that the flesh – or things relating to our human nature – are contrary to the things of the spirit.*
3. **Galatians 5:17(AMP)** – *These are in direct opposition to each other, continually in conflict, so that you as believers do not always to the good things that you want to do.*
4. Spiritually – you would always make the right choices. However, because you still have a connection to things relating to human nature/flesh – there are times this warfare keeps you from following the spirit entirely.

C. Allowing our re-born spirit to gain ascendancy over our flesh.

1. **Romans 8:5-8 (NKJV)** – *For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.*
 - a. **The key to living in connection to the new you – spirit – is to set your mind on the things of the spirit.**
 - b. **The key is where you set your mind.**
 - 1) How you think.
 - 2) What you see/view.
 - 3) What you allow to have ascendancy in your thinking.

2. Look in the Mirror

The natural mirror tells you what you look like.

The mirror of God's word tells you what you look like spiritually.

It reveals who and what you are as a new creation.

NOTE: Many looks into the mirror trying to become – who it says they are. The mirror of the word is not telling you what to become – but revealing who you already are in Christ.

Many still read the new covenant like a set of commands similar to the Old Covenant. The New Covenant is about new life freely given in Christ. As we SEE and PERCEIVE who we already are in HIM, His

transforming power begins to change us into what He destined us to become.

Greater things – require you to see WHO YOU ARE – so you can become a demonstration of the new you. Until you KNOW who you are – you will remain in a struggle to become.

Becoming is a result of knowing who you are.

- a. **James 1:22-25 (NKJV)** – *²²But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. ²³For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; ²⁴for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. ²⁵But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.*
- b. The Word of God is revelation to us. It is revealing who we are.
Ephesians 4:13 (GNT) – *And so we shall all come together to that oneness in our faith and in our knowledge of the Son of God; we shall become mature people, reaching to the very height of Christ's full stature*
Ephesians 4:13 (NLT) – *This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ*
Colossians 3:10 (NKVJ) – *and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him*
Colossians 3:10 (AMP) – *and have put on the new [spiritual] self who is being continually renewed in true knowledge in the image of Him who created the new self.*
Colossians 3:10 (ISV) – *and have clothed yourselves with the new nature, which is being renewed in full knowledge, consistent with the image of the one who created it. and have clothed yourselves with the new nature, which is being renewed in full knowledge, consistent with the image of the one who created it.*

- c. **The image of him who created him – Consistent with the image of the one who created it.**
 - 1) We are created in the image and likeness of God.
 - 2) When God created man – he had an inward image of what he was to be like – that image and likeness was limited by the fall.
 - 3) God Also had an inward image of what the NEW MAN would look like.
 - 4) We become what God imagined us to be – as we are renewed in knowledge – consistent with the image that He has for me.
- d. **The Mirror of God’s Word allows me to see who I am according to What God imagined me to be – and declares me to be!**

3. Examples of seeing myself in God’s mirror

Building my new self-image

- a. **2 Corinthians 2:14 (NKJV) – Thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us into triumph.**
In this mirror – I see myself TRIUMPHANT in Christ who always leads me into victory.
- b. **Galatians 3:26 (NKJV) – For in Christ you are all sons of God through faith.**
I see myself as a SON OF GOD because I have faith in Him.
- c. **Ephesians 2:10 (NKJV) – For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.**
I am His workmanship – created in Christ Jesus for good works that God has already prepared beforehand for me.
- d. **Acts 17:28 (NKJV) – for in Him we live and move and have our being, as also some of your own poets have said, ‘For we are also His offspring.**
In Him, I live – I have life – and I move and have my being. I am who I am in HIM – I am His offspring.
- e. **Romans 5:2 (NKJV) – Through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.**
In Him, I have ACCESS by faith into God’s grace – in which I take my stand.

- f. **Galatians 4:7 (AMP)** – *Therefore you are no longer a slave (bond-servant), but a son; and if a son, then also an heir through [the gracious act of] God [through Christ].
I am no longer a slave – but I see myself as a son and an heir in God's mirror.*
- g. **Philippians 4:13 (AMP)** – *I can do all things [which He has called me to do] through Him who strengthens and empowers me [to fulfill His purpose—I am self-sufficient in Christ's sufficiency; I am ready for anything and equal to anything through Him who infuses me with inner strength and confident peace.
When I look into God's mirror, I see myself with strength – STRONG.*

NOTE:

I am what He says I am.
I can do what He says I can do.
I have what He says I have.

III. This type of thinking – changes how I see myself – This NEW self-image completely based upon who I am in Christ prepares me for “Greater Things”.

A self-image based upon my new life vs my old one.

Colossians 3:1-3 (AMP) – *¹Therefore if you have been raised with Christ [to a new life, sharing in His resurrection from the dead], keep seeking the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your mind and keep focused habitually on the things above [the heavenly things], not on things that are on the earth [which have only temporal value]. ³For you died [to this world], and your [new, real] life is hidden with Christ in God*

- A. Hidden – concealed that it may not become known.
 - B. God sees my life – through Christ.
1. The Christian life is defined by the believer's identification with Christ. It is not enough to know that Jesus died for us. We must also



understand that we died with Him. I died with Him and my life is now hidden with Christ in God.

2. Stop digging up the dead.

- The old you.
- The old past.
- The old habits.
- Don't identify with that which has been hidden.
- Identify with the New You that stands complete in Christ.
- When God looks at me in Christ – He sees the righteousness of Christ – the completion of Christ – the perfection of Christ.
- Thank God – I identify with the hidden me.