

The Potter's Christian Life Center

SERMON NOTES
with Pastor Greg Formey



The Battle For The Mind

“Practice Makes Obedience”

2 Corinthians 10:6

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The Apostle Paul concludes his strategy for mental battle with a fascinating phrase in **2 Corinthians 10:6**: "being ready to punish every disobedience, when your obedience is complete." At first glance, this sounds like a military threat, but it is actually a beautiful promise about training. It suggests that obedience is not a light switch you flip on; it is a "completion" process.

Our theme today is obedience as practice. Making thoughts obey Christ is not about instant perfection. It is about consistent direction and training the mind—much like learning a new habit or training a muscle.

THE SCIENCE OF PATTERNS

It is important to understand that your brain is not broken; it has simply learned patterns.

Just as your brain learned those old patterns, it can learn new ones. God did not command you to renew your mind without giving you the potential and the divine power to get it done.

REPEATED ALIGNMENT

Many people wait for a "feeling" of faith before they obey. But faith is not a feeling; it is repeated alignment.

Romans 12:2

...be transformed by the renewal of your mind.

The Greek word for renewal describes a continuous process, not a one-time event.

On day one of learning a new language, you do not feel like a natural speaker. You have to repeatedly align your tongue to new sounds. Eventually, through practice, it becomes your fluent way of speaking. Practice it long enough, and you even think in your new language.

COMPLETING THE OBEDIENCE

Paul says he is ready to deal with disobedience once your obedience is "complete". This implies that there is a training period.

In **Deuteronomy 6:6-7**, God told the Israelites to repeat His words to their children while sitting, walking, lying down, and rising. This was practice, using every moment to train the mind to stay in alignment with the truth.

Consider master musicians like Bach and Beethoven. They did not sit down and play masterpieces instantly. They practiced scales thousands of times. Their obedience to the music was made complete through the practice of the small notes and scales.

Conclusion

The Lord invites us to be ready. This means acting like a guard at the gate of your mind. When a disobedient thought approaches, you don't have to be perfect; you just have to be practiced.