

THINK JESUS

Change Your Mind, Change Your Life

August 13, 2023

Colossians 3:10 Put on your new nature (*man*), & be renewed as you learn to know your Creator & become like Him.

*Jesus is trying to bring Christlike transformation to all of us, all the time.
When your life is w/ Jesus, your life will be transformed.*

Ephesians 4:22 AMPC Strip yourselves of your former nature; put off & discard your old unrenewed self which characterized your previous manner of life & becomes corrupt through lusts & desires that spring from delusion; 23 Be constantly renewed in the spirit of your mind; having a fresh mental & spiritual attitude, 24 Put on the new nature; the regenerate self, created in God's image, Godlike in true righteousness & holiness.

Strip off the flesh/carnal/old man thoughts & ways
***PAINT *CARPET *DIAPER *DEODORANT**

Change is hard. We like our thoughts. We're comfortable w/ our mind. We have to fight for change. Break out of our ruts, routines, & habits.

*If we want to have something we've never had,
we're gonna have to do something we've never done.*

When's the last time you did something for the first time?

SKYDIVING VIDEO

Galatians 5:19 When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, the results are very clear: sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures, 20 idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division, 21 envy, drunkenness, wild parties, & other sins like these... **22** But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, & *self-control*.

Romans 7:15 I don't really understand myself, for I want to do what's right, but I don't do it. Instead, I do what I hate. 16 But if I know that what I'm doing is wrong, this shows that I agree that the law is good. 17 So I'm not the one doing wrong; it's sin living in me that does it. 18 I know that

nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. I want to do what is right, but I can't. 19 I want to do what's good, but I don't. I don't want to do what's wrong, but I do it anyway. 20 But if I do what I don't want to do, I'm not really the one doing wrong; it's sin living in me that does it...

Romans 7:25 Thank God! The answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord. So you see how it is: In my mind I really want to obey God's law, but because of my sinful nature I am a slave to sin.

Romans 8:5 Those who are dominated by the sinful nature *think* about (*set their minds on*) sinful things, but those who are controlled by the Holy Spirit *think* about things that please the Spirit. 6 Letting your sinful (*flesh*) nature control your *mind* leads to death. But letting the Spirit control your *mind* (*spiritually minded*) leads to life & peace.

Spirit thinking leads to Spirit actions, which leads to Spirit feelings.

As long as you feel bad & focus on your negative feelings, you're not going to change; you're planning to stay there.

Feeling bad about your reality is a start, but it won't produce change.

Do Your Feelings Control Your Thoughts? Or Thoughts Control Feelings

How do you respond when you feel depressed, discouraged, bored or unhappy? Do you allow those feelings to control your thoughts/actions?

2 Timothy 1:7 God has not given us a spirit of fear & timidity, but of power, love, & self-discipline. *God has given us the "spirit of self-discipline" "a spirit of self-control" "a sound mind"*

As you're renewing your mind, self-discipline is essential.

Right thinking leads to right actions, which leads to right feelings.

The priority is critical. If your feelings are first, they'll drive you wherever they feel like going. "If it feels this good, it must be the right thing to do." What a trap! Your emotions will lead you into confusion.

Spirit thinking is based on seeing your situation from God's point of view, & then acting on it, then good feelings will follow.

2 Corinthians 10:3 NKJV For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. 4 For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, 5 casting down arguments & every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, *bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,*

It's more than just "trying hard". It's a conscious effort to:

1. ***Pay attention*** to how you really think & believe
2. ***Be aware*** of how God wants you to think (*The Word*)
3. ***Focus*** your thoughts on God's thoughts (*The Word*)
4. ***Practice*** the thoughts of God until they are your own (*The Word*)
5. ***Live out*** the thoughts of God in your everyday life (*The Word*)

***Orange cones – progression of taking every thought captive**

anger - anxiety - pornography - lying - gossip - selfishness - depression

How do we replace the worldly thoughts w/ God's thoughts? The Word.

*Google "Scriptures on"

*Topical Bibles i.e. "Prayers That Avail Much" Germaine Copeland

Romans 12:2 MSG Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what He wants from you, & quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.

Before Paul teaches us to renew our minds, he says...

Romans 12:1 NKJV I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies (*your whole self/life*) a living sacrifice (*life of worship*) holy, acceptable to God, *which is* your reasonable service.

****Transformation begins w/ worship****