



Think Clearly: Winning the Battle for Your Mind

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*I appeal to you therefore, brothers, **by the mercies of God**, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.*

*²Do **not be conformed** to this world, but **be transformed** by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.*

Romans 12:1-2 ESV

BIG IDEA: God transforms our lives by renewing our minds. Lasting change doesn't begin with trying **HARDER**; it begins with **THINKING** differently.

My mind is always being **SHAPED**

Romans 12:2; Genesis 3:1-5

- Conformed vs. Transformed
 - **Conformed** – Being shaped by the **WORLD** from the **OUTSIDE** in
 - **Transformed** – Being changed by **GOD** from the **INSIDE** out
- Nobody thinks **INDEPENDENTLY**
 - Who is discipling my mind... the **WORLD** or the **WORD**?
 - The **world** is the collection of beliefs, values, messages, ways of thinking and living that oppose God and His ways.
 - The **Word** is God's truth revealed in Scripture that teaches who God is, who we are, and how to live according to His design.
- **HARD TRUTH:** I cannot consistently think like the world and expect to live like Jesus. What shapes my mind will eventually shape my life.
- *What has predominantly shaped my thinking up to this point in my life?*

WARNING: Lies become **STRONGHOLDS**

2 Corinthians 5:17, 10:3-5; John 8:32, 44, Philippians 1:6; Romans 8:1

- Three-Step Battle Plan:

STEP 1: IDENTIFY the lie

STEP 2: Confront the lie with **TRUTH**

STEP 3: Continue to take **EVERY THOUGHT** captive



Online Notes

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KEEP READING →

- **HARD TRUTH:** I cannot stop every thought from entering my mind, but I can decide which thoughts are allowed to stay.
- *What thoughts do I need to start taking captive?*

TRUTH renews my mind

Romans 12:2; John 5:39-40

- **The Goal:** Not just more **INFORMATION**, but **TRANSFORMATION**
- Four ways to **renew** my mind and **identify** lies from the enemy:
 1. **SCRIPTURE** *John 17:17; Psalm 119:11, 105; Colossians 3:16*
 2. **PRAYER** *Philippians 4:6-7; Psalm 139:23-24; Colossians 4:2*
 3. **BIBLICAL** community *Romans 12:2, 4-5; Hebrews 10:24-25; Colossians 3:16*
 4. **OBEDIENCE** *James 1:22; John 8:31-32; Romans 6:17*
- Trying vs. Training *1 Timothy 4:7-8; 2 Timothy 2:15, 22; 1 Corinthians 9:24-27*
 - **Trying** is relying on your own effort to become more like Christ
 - **Training** is intentionally placing yourself where God can change you
- **HARD TRUTH:** The thoughts I repeatedly rehearse become the beliefs that eventually shape my life.
- *Where do I need to stop trying and begin training?*

Memory Verse:

Do **not be conformed** to this world, but **be transformed** by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Romans 12:2 ESV

Recommended Resources:

[Fully Engaged Series Infographic](#)

[World vs Word Discipleship Chart](#)

[Four Ways to Renew My Mind and Identify Lies From the Enemy](#)

[The Battlefield](#) (message from Anxious for Nothing Series)



Online Notes

My next step today is to...

- Memorize Romans 12:2
- Repent and accept Jesus as my Savior and submit to His Lordship for the first time!
- Go public as a follower of Jesus and get baptized
- Identify the lie I battle most often and answer it with God's truth
- Plan to attend the August Men's or Women's Kickoff Meeting
- Plan to attend the August 23 Equipping Seminar: **Can I Really Believe?**
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