

Notes:

The Battle Within #2

Romans 12:1-2 Pastor David Redmond March 13, 2011
Identity Theft Series: Message 6

And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all He has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind He will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship Him. ²Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect. Romans 12:1-2 (NLT)

Review From Last Week:

There is a spiritual battle for control of my mind.

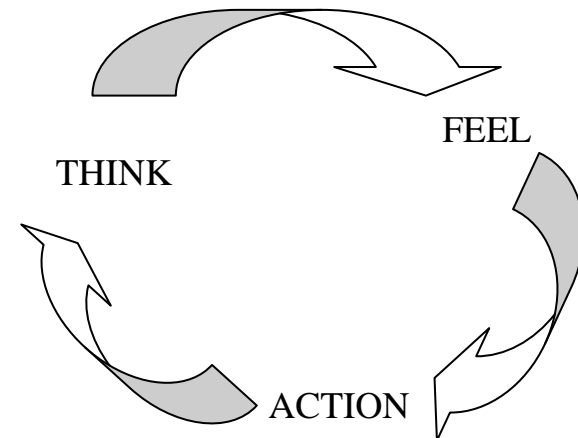
The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. ⁵We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. II Corinthians 10:4,5 (NIV)

Whatever dominates my thinking controls my life.

For as he thinks within himself, so he is... Proverbs 23:7 (NAS)

Carefully guard your thoughts because they are the source of true life.

Proverbs 4:23 (CEV)



Living out my identity in Christ means I must think Biblically.

Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth. John 17:17 (NAS)

How Does God Renew A Mind?

... because the good hand of his God was upon him. For Ezra had set his heart to study the law of the Lord, and to practice it, and to teach His statutes and ordinances in Israel. *Ezra 7:9b,10 (NAS)*

For Ezra had set his heart...

1. _____ God's Word.

Ezra devoted himself...Ezra 7:10a (NIV)

Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, handling accurately the word of truth.

2 Timothy 2:15 (NAS)

So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.

Romans 10:17 (NAS)

I prayed for faith, and thought someday faith would come down and strike me like lightning. But faith did not seem to come. One day I read in the tenth chapter of Romans. "So faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." I had closed my Bible and prayed for faith. I now opened my Bible and began to study, and faith has been growing ever since. (D.L. Moody)

I delight in Your decrees; I will not neglect your word. ³⁰I have chosen the way of faithfulness; I have set my heart on Your laws. ³¹I hold fast to Your statutes, LORD; do not let me be put to shame. ³²I run in the path of Your commands, for You have broadened my understanding. ³³Teach me, LORD, the way of Your decrees, that I may follow it to the end. ³⁴Give me understanding, so that I may keep Your law and obey it with all my heart. ³⁵Direct me in the path of Your commands, for there I find delight. ³⁶Turn my heart toward Your statutes and not toward selfish gain. ³⁷Turn my eyes away from worthless things; preserve my life according to Your word. ⁹⁷Oh, how I love your law! I meditate on it all day long. ¹⁷⁴I long for Your salvation, LORD, and Your law gives me delight. ¹⁷⁵Let me live that I may praise you, and may Your laws sustain me.

Psalms 119:16; 30-37; 97;174-175 (NIV)

Key: _____

Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, ²but whose delight is in the law of the LORD, and who meditates on His law day and night.

Psalms 1:1-2 (NIV)

2. _____ God's Word.

...to study the law of the Lord...Ezra 7:10b (NAS)

With the Lord's authority I say this: Live no longer as the Gentiles do, for they are hopelessly confused. ¹⁸Their minds are full of darkness; they wander far from the life God gives because they have closed their minds and hardened their hearts against Him. ¹⁹They have no sense of shame. They live for lustful pleasure and eagerly practice every kind of impurity. ²⁰But that isn't what you learned about Christ. ²¹Since you have heard about Jesus and have learned the truth that comes from Him, ²²throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception. ²³Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes. ²⁴Put on your new nature, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy. *Ephesians 4:17-24 (NLT)*

Key: _____

3. _____ God's Word.

...and to practice it, and to teach...Ezra 7:10c (NAS)

...you have stripped off your old sinful nature and all its wicked deeds. ¹⁰Put on your new nature, and be renewed as you learn to know your Creator and become like Him. *Colossians 3: 9b-10 (NLT)*

Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom He gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts. ¹⁷And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father. *Colossians 3:16-17 (NLT)*

But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves. *James 1:22 (NLT)*

But those who obey God's word truly show how completely they love Him. That is how we know we are living in Him. *1 John 2:5 (NLT)*

Key: _____

The word disciple means "a learner". As used by Jesus and Paul, the word disciple means "a learner or pupil who accepts the teachings of Christ, not only in belief but also in lifestyle. It involves a deliberate choice, a definite denial and a determined obedience." (Greer, Life to Life Discipleship)

"The Bible was not given for our information, but for our transformation." (D.L. Moody)