

PRAYER

Father God, thank You for giving us Your Word so that we can walk in Truth daily, in Jesus' Name, Amen!

INTRODUCTION

Pastor Roger stated that the closer we get to living on mission, the more fulfilled our lives will be. God has "wired" each of us uniquely and specifically for His purpose for us, but if we are allowing culture and the world to shape us, we will not be living on mission nor will we be fulfilled. Our main job and God-Given mission in life is to make Jesus' name known and until we are living in that purpose, we will always be seeking the next best thing or experience to satisfy us, and miss out. Paul wrote to the Roman Christians shortly before he died, urging them to continually offer their bodies as living sacrifices for God to use as He willed. He told them that this would be their truest form of worship, and warned them not to conform to worldly patterns, to not think as the world's spirit tells them to think, but as God tells them to think, so they could be transformed by renewing their mind to the truth according to God! Only then would they be able to test, approve, and know God's good, pleasing, and perfect will for their lives (Rom 12:1-2). Living on mission and with purpose the way that God designed for us to is a progressive process that begins at salvation and only advances as we wash our minds with the truth of God's Word daily. Salvation gets us to "good", but transforming our mind daily with God's truth gets us to "pleasing and perfect", and has the following impact:

DISCUSSION

1. **A transformed mind accelerates the maturity process.** Being around immature people is fatiguing and God wants to accelerate our maturity process. When we have our mind being renewed we can't help but become missional, which will always increase our maturity. The progression to maturity requires a transformed mind.
2. **A transformed mind defends against wayward thoughts.** God wants us to have tools to fight with and defend ourselves against the fiery darts of the devil, but we won't be able to without a mind transformed according to the Word of God. If we can't defend ourselves between the ears, we won't be able to defend ourselves in any other part of our anatomy. To fight the good fight we have to have good mental prowess and be able to ward off the wicked and evil thoughts of the enemy, coming against us from external sources. If we don't do the work of the Lord to have a transformed mind, our minds will go the way of the world and we will be disqualified from fulfilling our God-Given mission and purpose.
3. **A transformed mind promotes consistent, if not perpetual, peace.** A sad narrative for many people today is that they aren't living in peace, they are living in pieces. So many are living with depression, anxiety, poor self-image, and fear. These are the things of a world spirit! The Word of God will reach in to our hearts and minds and give us the peace and strength we need to live on mission no matter what we are going through.

Questions: *How are you living out your God-Given purpose of making Jesus' name known, each day? If you aren't, how can you become more missional in your daily life? Consider your current level of spiritual maturity. How do you think your transformed, or non-transformed mind, is contributing to that level of maturity? How quickly are you able to defend against the fiery "darts" of the enemy against your mind? How has your ability or inability to defend against these wayward thoughts affected your ability to live on mission? Think about your level of peace when hardship comes your way. What does it say about where you're at in the transformation of the mind, process?*

HOW WILL I BE DIFFERENT?

Renewing and transforming our minds to God's truth is the foundation for living on mission and for the purpose that God created each of us for. Which areas of your mind need to be further renewed and more biblically aligned so that you can live fully in the purpose of God for your life?