

**"How Do We Renew Our Minds?"
(Colossians 3:1-10)**



The only problem with a perfectionist
is that they are not perfect!

So we can't be perfect,
but we still can live renewed lives,
lives where we are striving to think and live
the way God wants us to think and live.

Romans 12:1-2 I beseech you therefore, brethren,
by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a
living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is your*
reasonable service.

And do not be conformed to this world, but be
transformed by the renewing of your mind,
that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable
and perfect will of God.

If we are to live changed (repentant) lives,
our thinking needs to change...

I. We first need to see what
the renewing of our mind is not...

A. It is not "positive thinking".

B. It is not "transcendental meditation".

C. It is not "hypnosis".

D. It is not "new thinking habits".

II. What, then, is mind renewal?

A. Paul states that this is
a conscious changing of lifestyles.

Colossians 3:9-10 Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, and have put on the new *man* who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,

Ephesians 4:22-23 that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind,

B. It involves...

1. Thinking like Christ - a conscious imitation of the actions and attitudes of Christ.

Philippians 2:5 Let this mind be in you
which was also in Christ Jesus,

2. Thinking about God.

Psalms 89:15 Blessed *are* the people who know
the joyful sound! They walk, O LORD,
in the light of Your countenance.

Isaiah 26:3 You will keep *him* in perfect peace,
Whose mind is stayed on You,
Because he trusts in You.

3. Controlling our "mindset".

Romans 8:5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those *who live* according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.

Colossians 3:2 Set your mind on things above,
not on things on the earth.

Philippians 4:8-9 Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things *are* noble, whatever things *are* just, whatever things *are* pure, whatever things *are* lovely, whatever things *are* of good report, if *there is* any virtue and if *there is* anything praiseworthy--meditate on these things. The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.

4. Dwelling on God's word.

Colossians 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, **teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.**

Psalms 1:2 But his delight *is* in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night.

Psalms 119:11 Your word I have hidden in my heart,
That I might not sin against You!

5. Choosing good companions.

1 Corinthians 15:33 Do not be deceived:

"Evil company corrupts good habits."

III. Finally, be aware of the things that hinder renewal...

A. A busy schedule - everyone needs time to think on God and things spiritual!

B. A negative mood.

1 John 4:4 You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

1 John 5:5 Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

C. Worldliness...

1 John 2:15-17 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

For all that *is* in the world--
the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes,
and the pride of life--*is not of the Father*
but is of the world. And the world is passing away,
and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God
abides forever.

Conclusion:

It's Your choice!