

# Renewing our Mind

We may not know what the future holds, but we know who holds our future.

**John 10: 10.** The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life and have it to the full.

**Romans 12:2 (NLT).** Don't copy the behaviour 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.

Bringing a positive change in our lives always begins with changing the way we think.

Some **quotes** about changing our mind...

*"We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used when we created them."* – **Albert Einstein.**

*"Progress is impossible without change; and those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything."* – **George Bernard Shaw**

**But where do we start???**

**There are 3 steps we can take to renew our mind...**

## **1. Receive**

It is one thing to believe but it is another thing to receive.

'**To believe**' is to accept and consider that something is true, while '**to receive**' means to take into one's possession.

Appropriate it! Enjoy the benefits of what you have received in Christ.

### **Psalm 103:2-5 speaks about the benefits...**

**2***Bless the LORD, O my soul,*

*And forget not all His benefits:*

**3***Who forgives all your iniquities,*

*Who heals all your diseases,*

**4***Who redeems your life from destruction,*

*Who crowns you with loving kindness and tender mercies,*

**5***Who satisfies your mouth with good things,*

What Christ has provided for us is more than a fact to believe but it is a truth to be received.

Part of what Jesus provided for us is a **gift of eternal life**.

**John 3:16 attested that truth.** *For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.*

*God has given us the gift of salvation. Jesus purchased it for us. This promise is written in the bible. Let's open our hearts to Jesus and enjoy His very Presence in our life.*

Live today and focus on the future.

**Isaiah 43:1 8** – *“Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.”*

**Phil. 3:13** – *“Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and reaching forward to what is ahead,”*  
After we've received it, the second step is to...

## 2. Respond

Now that our new Identity is with Christ and having our total confidence on who we are in Christ, our most appropriate response would be to offer our entire lives which is our reasonable act of worship.

Paul encourages us to clothe ourselves with the full armour of God.

***Ephesians 6:11-18.*** <sup>11</sup> Put on the full armour of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. <sup>12</sup> For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. <sup>13</sup> Therefore put on the full armour of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. <sup>14</sup> Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, <sup>15</sup> and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup> In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. <sup>17</sup> Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. <sup>18</sup> And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

As followers of Christ, there is a price, a cost we need to pay.

### **Luke 9:23**

*Then he said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.*

The self that Jesus wants us to deny is the old self tainted by sin and pride and the desire for recognition.

To truly follow Christ, we need to take up our cross daily by denying our old self.

This is the cross of Jesus that we have to carry and use as a bridge from our old life to our new life.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> step is...

### **3. To have a personal relationship with God**

The ultimate plan of God for us is to have a personal and thriving relationship with Him.

#### **a) What does God want for me?**

-He wants us to be His child. From the time we received Him as our Lord and Saviour, He has given us the right to become His very own children and the right to call Him our Father. (he is not just God is also our Father. How good is that)

**John 1:12** - *But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God.*

**Gal. 4:6** - *To show that you are his children, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who cries out, "Father, my Father."*

#### **b) What is truly a good, acceptable, and perfect use of my life for His purposes and not just for my own?**

*From the book: The Me I can Be: "Serving Jesus with the gifts and talents He has given us, makes a real difference in people lives, and bring us fulfilment and sense of belonging to Christ's church."*

We are called to be part of God's family and everyone has been given a gift and a role to play.

**Romans 12:6-9.** <sup>6</sup> *We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your[a] faith;*  
<sup>7</sup> *if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach;* <sup>8</sup> *if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.*

Following Christ includes belonging not just believing. We discover our role in life through our relationship with others.

*"Don't be discouraged, Don't be dismayed, Fear not, I'll be with you wherever you go" (Isaiah 41:10).*

This is the comfort and assurance from the Lord that whatever we are facing right now, regardless of which season we have in our life, God is always with us.

Book Reference:

The Me I Can Be by Bill Vasilakis

Do I really need to tell them? by Bruce Walters

[www.biblegetway.com](http://www.biblegetway.com)