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2016: The Year of RENEWED MINDS AND RECEPTIVE HEARTS!

Kingdom Living: A Renewed Mind & Receptive Heart – Part II

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Sermon Notes from December 11, 2016

God is interested in what you think

Luke 9:18-20 (Living Bible, TLB)

18 One day as he was alone, praying, with his disciples nearby, he came over and asked them, "Who are the people saying I am?" 19 "John the Baptist," they told him, "or perhaps Elijah or one of the other ancient prophets risen from the dead."20 Then he asked them, "Who do you think I am?" Peter replied, "The Messiah—the Christ of God!"

God cares about what you think

God will give you answers that will come against your current thinking

Mark 10:17-23 (Easy-to-Read Version, ERV)

17 Jesus started to leave, but a man ran to him and bowed down on his knees before him. The man asked, "Good Teacher, what must I do to get the life that never ends?" 18 Jesus answered, "Why do you call me good? Only God is good. 19 And you know his commands: 'You must not murder anyone, you must not commit adultery, you must not steal, you must not lie, you must not cheat, you must respect your father and mother'" 20 The man said, "Teacher, I have obeyed all these commands since I was a boy." 21 Jesus looked at the man in a way that showed how much he cared for him. He said, "There is still one thing you need to do. Go and sell everything you have. Give the money to those who are poor, and you will have riches in heaven. Then come and follow me." 22 The man was upset when Jesus told him to give away his money. He didn't want to do this, because he was very rich. So he went away sad. 23 Then Jesus looked at his followers and said to them, "It will be very hard for a rich person to enter God's kingdom!"

God created you to think

God is concerned about how you think

It will always be difficult to obey God without renewing your mind

Romans 12:1-2 (New Living Translation, NLT)

1 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. 2 Don'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.

God wants you to know what He is thinking so He gave you His Word and His Spirit

1 Corinthians 2:10-16 (TLB)

10 But we know about these things because God has sent his Spirit to tell us, and his Spirit searches out and shows us all of God's deepest secrets. 11 No one can really know what anyone else is thinking or what he is really like except that person himself. And no one can know God's thoughts except God's own Spirit. 12 And God has actually given us his Spirit (not the world's spirit) to tell us about the wonderful free gifts of grace and blessing that God has given us. 13 In telling you about these gifts we have even used the very words given to us by the Holy Spirit, not words that we as men might choose. So we use the Holy Spirit's words to explain the Holy Spirit's facts. 14 But the man who isn't a Christian can't understand and can't accept these thoughts from God, which the Holy Spirit teaches us. They sound foolish to him because only those who have the Holy Spirit within them can understand what the Holy Spirit means. Others just can't take it in. 15 But the spiritual man has insight into everything, and that bothers and baffles the man of the world, who can't understand him at all. 16 How could he? For certainly he has never been one to know the Lord's thoughts, or to discuss them with him, or to move the hands of God by prayer. But, strange as it seems, we Christians actually do have within us a portion of the very thoughts and mind of Christ.

When God being a priority becomes a habit in your life you will experience an ever increasing relationship with God

Colossians 3:2-4 (Amplified Bible, AMP)

2 Set your mind and keep focused habitually on the things above [the heavenly things], not on things that are on the earth [which have only temporal value]. 3 For you died [to this world], and your [new, real] life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, who is our life, appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

Matthew 6:31-33 (TLB)

31-32 "So don't worry at all about having enough food and clothing. Why be like the heathen? For they take pride in all these things and are deeply concerned about them. But your heavenly Father already knows perfectly well that you need them, 33 and he will give them to you if you give him first place in your life and live as he wants you to.

Lord! Don't leave me hanging!

Luke 22:39-43 (NLT)

39 Then, accompanied by the disciples, Jesus left the upstairs room and went as usual to the Mount of Olives. 40 There he told them, "Pray that you will not give in to temptation." 41 He walked away, about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed, 42 "Father, if you are willing, please take this cup of suffering away from me. Yet I want your will to be done, not mine." 43 Then an angel from heaven appeared and strengthened him.