

Mind Games Episode 1
"Change Your Mind"
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Romans 12:2 "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."

Three Truths About Lasting Life Change

1. WE ALL NEED TO CHANGE!

Romans 12 - "Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person..."

Two lies the enemy brings to our minds:

- Lasting life change is not possible.

"The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak!"

Matthew 26:41 "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation."

1 Corinthians 6:11 "Some of you were once like that. But you were cleansed; you were made holy; you were made right with God by calling on the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God."

The second lie the enemy brings to our minds is this:

- Lasting life change is not necessary.

Ephesians 4:17 "So I tell you this, and **insist on it in the Lord**, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking."

Matthew 7:16-20 "You will know them by their fruits. Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Therefore by their fruits you will know them."

Revelation 2:5 "Look how far you have fallen! Turn back to me and do the works you did at first. If you don't repent, I will come and remove your lampstand from its place among the churches."

The TRUTH is this:

God has called us to grow up and become like Jesus.

Ephesians 4:14-15 "We are not meant to remain as children ... but to grow up in every way into Christ..."

Romans 8:29 "For from the very beginning God decided that those who came to him ... should become like his Son...."

2. CHANGE YOUR THINKING, CHANGE YOUR LIFE!

Romans 12:2 "...let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think."

Two parts to life change:

- 1.) Our part - "Don't copy the world" and "Change the way you think".
- 2.) God's part - "let God transform you".

Two lies about the process of life change:

- Lasting life change is all God's work.
Romans 8:6, "So letting your sinful nature control your mind leads to death. But letting the Spirit control your mind leads to life and peace."
- Lasting life change is all man's work.
Romans 7:24-25, "Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin and death? Thank God! The answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord."

The Truth:

Lasting life change begins when we are born again and continues as we change our thinking.

2 Corinthians 5:17 "This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!"

Proverbs 23:7 "For as a man thinks in his heart, so is he."

Ephesians 4:22-24: "**Put off your old self**, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to **be made new in the attitude of your minds**; and to **put on the new self**, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness."

Put off the old...renew your thinking...put on the new!

3. LEARN AND BE CHANGED!

Romans 12: "Then you will learn to know God's will for you..."

Proverbs 8:5 "Are you immature? Learn to be mature. Are you foolish? Learn to have sense."

Information vs. Revelation

Information comes immediately, but revelation is often a process.

Information is a seed, but revelation turns the seed into fruit.

All truth is a seed of information. Revelation makes it fruit in your life.

Knowledge or information alone does not produce lasting life change.

2 Peter 3:18 “But continue to **grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.**”

1 Timothy 4:7-11 “Train yourself to be godly. Physical training is good, but training for godliness is much better, promising benefits in this life and in the life to come. This is a trustworthy saying, and everyone should accept it. This is why we work hard and continue to struggle, for our hope is in the living God, who is the Savior of all people and particularly of all believers. Teach these things and insist that everyone learn them.”

Study Questions

1. Think about the concept: “God created within each of us a desire to change, grow, and become more than we are today.”

- What are some examples of how people are eager to change, grow, and excel in their careers, education, and in society.
- Do you see the same desire to change, grow, and excel inside the church?

2. One of the lies the enemy uses to defeat us is this: “Lasting life change is not possible.”

- Why is this lie easy for many people to believe?
- In what areas of your life have you seen God change you since becoming a Christian?
- Read 2 Peter 1:3: “By his divine power, God has given us everything we need for living a godly life. We have received all of this by coming to know him, the one who called us to himself by means of His marvelous glory and excellence.”
- What has God already given to us?
- How do we receive this gift from God?

3. Another lie the enemy uses to defeat us is this: “Lasting life change is not necessary.”

- Why is this lie so damaging to the Church and the believer?
- List some of the problems that result when Christians believe this lie.

4. Some people believe that lasting life change is all God’s responsibility while others believe it is solely the duty of the individual Christian.

- What role does the Holy Spirit play in changing us? What role do we play in changing ourselves?

5. Read 2 Corinthians 4:3-4: “If the Good News we preach is hidden behind a veil, it is hidden only from people who are perishing. Satan, who is the god of this world, has blinded the minds of those who don’t believe. They are unable to see the glorious light of the Good News. They don’t understand this message about the glory of Christ, who is the exact likeness of God.”

- Who is our enemy and what does he try to do to keep us from changing?

- Read Acts 26:17-18: “I am sending you to the Gentiles to open their eyes, so they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God.”
- What did God tell Paul to do?
- What would the Gentiles do?

Satan’s role is to blind us.

God’s role is to enlighten us.

Man’s role is to turn from darkness to light, and from satan to God.

6. What specific step of faith could you take right now to allow God to transform your life to become like Him? When and how will you do that? Who or what might help you be successful?