Be Ye Transformed - Understanding God’s Truth
How Do Our Lives Become Transformed?

These notes are excerpts from Nancy Missler’s
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Review of Chapter One

“Romans 12:1-2 is the key: “I beseech you brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God.”

How do we do this? How are we transformed into God’s image? Romans 12:2 says the only way we can be transformed is by the constant renewing of our minds. By learning how to put off the limitations and presuppositions (the garbage) in our own thinking and put on the Mind of Christ can we experience the freedom to drop our masks and facades, be transparent in sharing our needs and genuinely show forth Christ.

Living the Truth - What is truth? Truth is where our words and our deeds match and become one. Jesus, of course, is the Truth. He is the Word who became the Deed. He also “lived the truth”. His Words (promises) always matched His Deeds and His life actions.

“Our words are so very easy, but to act out those words in our lives is a completely different thing. This is the area that I believe God is most concerned with in all of our lives. He wants what we say and what we do to be one, so that we can be genuine representatives of Him and we can live the truth.”

“...if we say [with our words] that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not the truth.” (1 John 1:5-6)

In 1 John, God says that He wants the supernatural Life that He has already placed in our hearts (if we are believers), not just to remain in our hearts (and be words only), but to be shown forth out in our lives (our souls) so that all can see it and desire it. He wants us to genuinely walk in His Love and Truth, not just talk about it, to be those open vessels living His life, not just talking about His life. To walk the Talk.

Abundant Life - John 10:10 – purpose of our being called as Christians is so that we might have life and have it more abundantly. Whose “life” is John talking about? His supernatural Life (His supernatural Love (Agape), His supernatural Thoughts and His supernatural Power to perform these in our lives. Our natural life, is our human life or our self-life (our own human thoughts, emotions and desires – that are usually contrary to God’s) performed in our lives by our own human abilities (our flesh).

When we become born again, God comes into our hearts and, once again, restores that supernatural Life. God doesn’t want this supernatural Life to remain in our hearts. He wants His abundant Life to be
shown forth out in our lives (our souls) so that all can see it and desire it. He wants us to be those open vessels living His Life not just talking about His Life. He wants us to be Life Imparters.

The Exchanged Life - We are to relinquish our self-life to Him, so that His Life can flow from our hearts and can freely come forth from our souls. Read Galatians 2:20. Philippians 1:21 Paul states “For me to live is Christ.” We are to moment by moment set aside our life, so God’s life can come forth (sometimes called the exchanged life). We give our life to God and He gives us His.

Read John 12:24, which tells us to become “emptied of self”; we surrender ourselves to God, He takes our own unique personality, our own individual temperament, our own ‘make-up’ and then fills it with His Love, His Thoughts and His Power, so that we can be “filled with Him.”

How Are We Able To Do This? How do I ‘walk the talk’? “How am I emptied of self-life and filled with God’s Life? How does Christ become my very life itself?” Read Romans 12:1-2. “This Scripture tells us that a renewed mind is the “key” to our transformation. Transformation means an exchange of life. It means taking off ‘self’ and putting on God. A renewed mind is the “bridge” or the “link” between our being emptied of self and being filled with God. ...it’s the mechanism or instrument by which Christ’s supernatural Life in our hearts can become our life in our souls.” Read Ephesians 4:22-24 which explains what a renewed mind does.

Goal and Purpose of Being a Christian – “Being transformed into Christ’s Image is the basic goal and purpose for each of our lives as Christians

- When we let God conform us into the image of Christ, we will be able to live the truth and our walk will reflect our talk and God’s Word will have a chance to be passed on to others.
- With a renewed mind, God’s Life doesn’t just remain in our hearts, but is manifested in our day-to-day living.
- When we don’t chose to renew our minds, then we quench God’s Spirit in our hearts and block His Life from coming forth and that will reflect self-life versus God’s Life

Hidden Chambers - When we don’t know how to renew our minds or how to not stay enmeshed in our own thinking, we give Satan a means to grab hold of our conscious thinking, but we also allow him to establish strongholds in our hidden chambers or our innermost part as Scripture refers to it. Hidden Chambers - “The hidden part of our soul where we hide and bury all of our painful experiences, hurts, and fears, thinking no one will see; no one will know. If not cleansed, these buried things can eventually become the motivation of our lives, rather than God’s Life in us.” These are the things that eventually can become the hidden motivation for much of what we do. As God begins to teach us how to renew our minds, we’ll discover that not only can we be set free from the symptoms of our problems (our conscious negative thoughts and emotions – but also the secret, hidden faults within us – the fears, doubts and insecurities, that are often the real root cause of our problems. Read - Psalm 19:12-13
We All Have the Mind of Christ - Read 1 Corinthians 2:1-16

As this scripture tells us, as Christians we all have the Mind of Christ - Read – Romans 8:28-29 (conformed into the image of Christ). Mind of Christ “A divine seven-fold conceptual process. It’s God’s Holy Spirit that creates God’s supernatural thoughts in our hearts and through a process (again by His Spirit) produces them as Godly actions in our lives.”

- Most of us believers have not only been ignorant as to what the Mind of Christ is, but also what it does and how it works
- We’ve not been able to use (tap into) this awesome gift that God has given us
- We’ve depended on our own thoughts and emotions – which is exactly where Satan wants us

Christian Yo-Yo Syndrome – constantly depending on our own emotions, responses from others and our own circumstances. How to change this cycle – Learn to daily, moment by moment, renew your mind – put off the ‘junk’ (stinkin’ thinkin’) and put on Christ. If we do not change our basic thinking patterns (thought process), then our lives will not change either, no matter what we do.

Read Isaiah 59:10 (Note: In scripture, ‘eye’ is often referred to as our mental vision or our mind). Maturity in Christ is not about ‘doing’ (knowing Scripture, going to church regularly, attending prayer meetings, leading Bible studies, etc.). Maturity “in Christ is knowing how, moment by moment, to make the proper faith choices to renew our minds, so that God’s Life from our hearts can continue to flow.

Take Every Thought Captive

- Read 2 Corinthians 10:5 - Another reason why many of us continue to depend on our own thinking rather than God’s
- What does God mean when He says “take every thought captive”?
- Read Romans 14:23 – Peace barometer

Chain Reaction

- Why our thoughts are so important to God
  - Our thoughts are the first to be triggered in the chain reaction of our souls. They stir up our emotions
  - Our emotions cause our desires
  - Our desires produce our actions

- When we don’t take every thought captive, we end up being carried away on the tide of emotion – that chain reaction – and quenching God’s Spirit, and His Life in our hearts is not able to come forth.
- When we depend on our own thoughts and emotions – that is exactly where Satan wants us.
- As we’ve discussed before, as Christians we all have the Mind of Christ (It’s God’s Holy Spirit that creates God’s supernatural thoughts in our hearts and through a process (again by His Spirit) produces them as Godly actions in our lives). However, we will not be able to use this incredible gift, unless we recognize, first of all, that our own emotional way of thinking is totally opposite from Gods and recognize the importance of taking every thought captive.