

LET'S TRY THIS AGAIN
"Making Room in My Box"
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January 31, 2021

Thread: 2021 will offer many reasons to NOT grow with Jesus; GROW with Jesus anyway!

Setting ourselves up for God's success:

- "that comes from a pure heart"
- Not conflicted or in competition with itself
- Driven solely by Jesus
- "a clear conscience"
- Clear windshield
- God is able to speak to you through it.
- "and genuine faith"
- This is who I am--someone following Jesus on His walk.

30 Day Challenge:

- Prioritize Chair Time at 15 minutes, 3-5 days a week (time to up your game!)
- 3/30: Who will you commit to pray for that they "see God's best for them in the next 30 days and that they step into it."
- Read/meditate for the next 30 days on Matthew Chapters 5, 6, 7 & 8.

This Week! _____

Time to CASH some CHECKS!

Passage: Solomon is Given the Throne

⁷ That night God appeared to Solomon and said, "What do you want? Ask, and I will give it to you!"

⁸ Solomon replied to God, "You showed great and faithful love to David, my father, and now you have made me king in his place. ⁹ O Lord God, please continue to keep your promise to David my father, for you have made me king over a people as numerous as the dust of the earth! ¹⁰ Give me the wisdom and knowledge to lead them properly, for who could possibly govern this great people of yours?"

¹¹ God said to Solomon, "Because your greatest desire is to help your people, and you did not ask for wealth, riches, fame, or even the death of your enemies or a long life, but rather you asked for wisdom and knowledge to properly govern my people— ¹² I will certainly give you the wisdom and knowledge you requested. But I will also give you wealth, riches, and fame such as no other king has had before you or will ever have in the future!" **2 Chronicles 1:7-12 NLT**

TIME IN THE CHAIR

The Promise:

- I will "renew your mind".
- **Romans 12:1-2**

*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. **Romans 12:2 NLT***

- Shows us what the _____ things are so we _____ do them.
- Shows us _____ He _____ about things in our world and life.
- Gives us the "mind of Christ."

But it was to us that God revealed these things by his Spirit. For his Spirit searches out everything and shows us God's deep secrets. ¹¹ No one can know a person's thoughts except that person's own spirit, and no one can know God's thoughts except God's own Spirit. ¹² And we have received God's Spirit (not the world's spirit), so we can know the wonderful things God has freely given us...

*But people who aren't spiritual can't receive these truths from God's Spirit. It all sounds foolish to them and they can't understand it, for only those who are spiritual can understand what the Spirit means... For, "Who can know the Lord's thoughts? Who knows enough to teach him?" But we understand these things, for we have the mind of Christ. **1 Corinthians 2:10-16 NLT***

The Problem:

*So the trouble is not with the law, for it is spiritual and good. The trouble is with me, for I am all too human, a slave to sin. ¹⁵ I don't really understand myself, for I want to do what is right, but I don't do it. Instead, I do what I hate. **Romans 7:14-15 NLT***

How do I cash God's checks/renew my mind?

- Renewing your mind = when I'm seeing, hearing, and experiencing God in greater waves of clarity.
- It's Solomon's prayer: "God, I give you permission to replace the error of my thinking with the truth of Your thinking."

Jesus actually gives us the words to follow His thoughts:

*...your Father knows exactly what you need even before you ask him! ⁹ Pray like this: Our Father in heaven, may your name be kept holy. ¹⁰ May your Kingdom come soon. May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. ¹¹ Give us today the food we need, ¹² and forgive us our sins as we have forgiven those who sin against us. ¹³ And don't let us yield to temptation but rescue us from the evil one. **Matthew 6:8-13 NLT***

- Come with expectation.
- You will see Him as your faith is built brick by brick...WORD upon WORD.
- Wisdom

Making room in my box: Will I make room in my box so that God can renew my mind?

Challenge:

- Make room in my box so that God can fill more of it up with Himself!
- Allow God to renew my mind daily.
- 30 Day Challenge

Check out these FREE online studies from Doug Britton for further study:

Trust God, Not Your Feelings

www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/do-not-trust-emotions

Discover How God Looks at Things

www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/bible-gods-will

Invite the Holy Spirit to Transform You

www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/holy-spirit-changes-you

Life Group Homework

For the week of January 31, 2021

MY STORY

- 1) How was your Chair Time this past week?

- 2) How did you serve someone this past week?

QUICK REVIEW

- 3) What challenged you from Sunday's message?

DIGGING DEEPER/ TAKING IT HOME

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Romans 12:1-2 ESV

- 4) What does it mean to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice?

- 5) What does conformity mean and what does it look like in the life of a Christian?

- 6) What does it mean to renew the mind, and how do we do it?

- 7) What are some thoughts that you struggle with that conform to the pattern of this world?

- 8) What have you tried in order to change the thoughts you have that conform to the pattern of this world?

- 9) What will you do differently this week to not be conformed to this world but to renew your mind? What is your plan, and how is it different from what you have been doing?

CHAIR TIME TOOL

Over the next few weeks while Pastor Craig is teaching this series, the reading for Chair Time is Matthew Chapters 5-8. This is known as the *Sermon on the Mount*, and I encourage you to read it in its entirety each day. I will write different questions for each week, but the reading will remain the same.

- 1) How do these chapters help us renew our minds?

- 2) From these chapters, where is your thinking askew from the heart of God? Ask Him to reveal it to you and give you a new thought.

- 3) What is your takeaway from the reading?