**R12 Session # 3**

**Authentic Christ Follower/Leader**

**Pillar 2: Your Relationship with the WORLD’S VALUES…SEPARATE from the world (12:2)**

* Welcome
  + Ash Wed plans?
  + Centering “Romans 12:1-2”
    - Who wants to give memorizing 12:2 a try???

(*NIV) Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.*

***Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.***

* Prayer
* Review
  + Identify what is keeping you from surrendering it all to God.
  + What from last week is still lingering?
  + What issues have surfaced since last meeting?
  + Question #4 (maybe #5)
* Separate World Values
* There is a world system that threatens God’s dream for our lives. No one is exempt from its influence. This week’s session will open your eyes to why so many Christians live defeated lives. “Yes” to God, “No” to the world’s system.
* Scripture—Read it (what bubbles up)?
* Negative command: “*Do not be conformed to the pattern of this world”*

*Expanded Translation: Stop allowing yourselves to be molded by the influences and pressures of this world system.*

* *Assumes we have already been conformed. The world has pushed us, shaped us, etc in the ways of this world. We’ve allowed it. Should stop it.*
* *What areas in your life have you been conformed to (even without knowing it)?*

Positive command: “*But be transformed by the renewing of your mind”*

*Expanded Translation: But allow God to completely change your inward thinking and outward behavior by cooperating wholeheartedly moment by moment with the Spirit’s renewing process.”*

* *Not, transform yourself…to goal of discipleship is transformation of the heart. What’s the diff? None. Why?*
  + *Mind—much moer than brain*
    - *Jesus-love God with “mind” added mind*
    - *Paul—renew the mind*
    - *Science- mind process center of energy and information*
      * *Words affect an emotional response*
        + *Information to energy to positive or negative*
        + *So, Mind is the integration of the whole body!*
        + *Cannot separate verse 1 (offer your bodies) from verse 2 (transform the mind). It’s the whole thing.*

*Fasting is effective spir discipline? Involves the whole body*

Purpose: “*Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is-His good, pleasing and perfect will.”*

* We will KNOW God, know God’s voice, know God’s leading, Know God’s purpose.
* The way we know God’s purpose is by stop conforming, start renewing
* So, we can walk in the will of God. God will unfold it for you.

Fruit Stapling? (Refer to John 15:7-9)

Expanded translation: “Stop allowing yourselves to be molded by the influences and pressures of this present world we live in. Stop allowing Satan to dupe you, con you, use you, trick you, promise you life and love and power through a seductive world system that will only deliver disappointment, defeat, depressions, and make you a slave to sin.”

The world’s system: I John 2:15-17 *Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father**is not in them. For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.*

* *This verse speaks of “Separate”*
  + *First thing—surrender, second—separate*
* *We must define wha the World System is…from the above scrip*
* The lust of the flesh = the passion “to feel”- hedonism
  + Illustrate—Jamaica sign (whatever you want to do,clothing optional, etc)
    - Desire pursuit of pleasure and comfort
    - Most of America could be considered hedonistic
* The lust of the eye = the passion “to have” – materialism
  + Illustrate—SkyMall name one thing you need
* The pride of life = the passion “to be” – egotism
  + Illustrate—to be the man, the one up guy to be in control, to be in the limelight

We all wrestle with separating from the world’s system

Which one stung your heart more than others? (Don’t let them hide)

Practical Methods for renewing your mind:

1. Hear God’s Word… *Consequently, faith comes by hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ. Romans 10:17*
2. *Read God’s Word… Blessed is the one who reads the words of prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written, because the time is near. Rev. 1:3*
3. *Study God’s word…Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth. 2 Tim. 2:15*
4. *Memorize God’s Word…How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to your word. I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you. Psalm 119:9,11*

* Next week: Try to memorize Romans 12:3-8