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Christian Ministry Concepts

PO Box 1822, Titusville FL 32781-1822 February 21, 2020

Sad Personal Note: Carla's youngest brother Bob Black lost his battle with leukemia on February 7. Bob is with the Lord in heaven. Sadly his wife Karen is grief stricken and needs our prayers. Carla is doing well, but sad.

Spiritual Warfare: A Godly Renewed Mind versus A Worldly Fleshly Mind.

"For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace..." Romans 8:6.

Worldly Fleshly Minds Described in the Bible.

Depraved Mind: (Mind refuses to acknowledge the truth and rejects any moral standards or limitations for life choices).

"And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, God gave them over to a depraved mind, to do those things which are not proper..."

Romans 1:28

"...Constant friction [i.e.; create conflicts, arguments, etc.] between men of depraved mind and deprived of the truth, who suppose that godliness [i.e.; religion] is a means of gain." 1 Timothy 6:5



"Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so these men also oppose the truth, men of depraved mind, rejected in regard to the faith." 2 Timothy 3:8

Hostile Mind: (Mind in open rebellion to the authority and morality of God: It is focused on self-gratification).

"...Because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able to do so..." Romans 8:7

"Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest." Ephesians 2:3

"And although you were formerly alienated and hostile in mind, engaged in evil deeds..." Col. 1:21

Futile Mind: (Mind filled with empty useless thoughts: (i.e.; gossip, or many TV shows, movies, music, etc).

"So this I say, and affirm together with the Lord, that you walk no longer just as the Gentiles also walk, in the futility of their mind..." Ephesians 4:17

Impure Defiled Mind: (Mind filled with corrupt thoughts, memories, etc. from past sins: i.e.; porn, adultery).

"To the pure, all things are pure; but to those who are defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure, but both their mind and their conscience are defiled." Titus1:15

Arrogant Mind: (Mind that exalts itself as the final authority for truth, spirituality, etc.).

"Let no one keep defrauding you of your prize by delighting in self-abasement and the worship of the angels, taking his stand on visions he has seen, inflated without cause by his fleshly mind..." Col 2:18

The Inner Conflict of the Carnal Mind for the Believer in Christ.

Jesus "said to Peter, 'Get behind Me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to Me; for <u>you are not setting</u> your mind on God's interests, but man's." Matthew 16:23



"And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual men, but as to men of flesh, as to infants in Christ. I gave you milk to drink, not solid food; for you were not yet able to receive it. Indeed, even now you are not yet able, for you are still fleshly [KJV: Carnal]. For since there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not fleshly, and are you not walking like mere men?" 1 Corinthians 3:1-3

"I see a different law in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin which is in my members... Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, on the one hand I myself with my mind am serving the law of God, but on the other, with my flesh the law of sin." Romans 7:23, 7:25

The first step of growth is to in faith consciously submit to Christ as Lord and be filled with the Spirit.

"So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, *but be filled with the [Holy] Spirit.*" Ephesians 5:17-18.

"But I say, walk by the [Holy] Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh." Galatians 5:16.
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What is A Godly Renewed Mind?

"And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect." Romans 12:2

A Renewed Mind is a Cleansed Mind.

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9

"Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me and know my anxious thoughts; And see if there be any hurtful way in me, And lead me in the everlasting way." Psalms 139:23-24

"How much more will the blood of Christ.... cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God..." Heb 9:14.

"Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded." (James 4:8) "Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from these things, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified, useful to the Master, prepared for every good work." (2 Timothy 2:21)

Suggested Procedure: Make a time line (i.e.; five year segments) of your life recalling various sins in the respective time segments, confess each sin specifically and then specifically reject the wrong choices, attitudes, false beliefs, guilt and shame that you adopted about God, self, life, morality, etc. from that sin.

A Renewed Mind is a Disciplined Corralled Mind.

"Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth." Col 3:2.

"For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses. We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God ... taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ..." 2 Corinthians 10:4-5



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Suggestion: Increase scripture memory and meditation on scripture to learn to focus your thoughts.

A Renewed Mind Adopts the Spiritual Vision that Embraces God's Plan and Purpose.

"He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world..." to "...be holy and blameless before Him. In love He predestined us to adoption as sons... according to the kind intention of His will..." Eph 1:3-6

A Renewed Mind has Transformed Core Beliefs About God, Self and Others.

Christ... "is the image of the invisible God... all things... created through Him and for Him." Col 1:14-15

"If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature...old things passed away, new things have come." 2 Cor 5:17

"Accept one another, just as Christ also accepted us to the glory of God." Romans 15:7

A Renewed Mind Adopts God's Morals and Values for Relationships and Activities.

"Make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose. Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves..." Philippians 2:2-3

A Renewed Mind Creatively Generates Godly Focused Content of Thinking.

"Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things." Philippians 4:8.

Update: Dominican Republic Be Transformed Biblical Counselor Training.

Carla and I fly to the Dominican Republic Tuesday March 3 and return Thursday March 26. Already over 270 pastors have registered for the four conferences we have planned. We have begun packing; but we are still preparing a few details for the conferences and additional counseling handouts and materials to reproduce there.

Pray for us:

Safe travel to and from Dominican Republic and while we travel throughout the country for the various conferences. Protection from harm and sickness.

repare our hearts to be sensitive to the directions of the Holy Spirit and His anointing to teach.

Protection for the pastors that Satan will not be able to create roadblocks that prevent attendance.

That the pastors will be prepared to receive from God's word the truths that they will use to teach others and enable their churches to grow in Christ, that pre-conceived religious ideas will not block the truth.

Thank you for your continued prayers and faithful financial support of our ministry!