

CHOOSE FREEDOM SUPPORT GROUP
WEEK 3 SUPPLEMENT

You are a new creation!

The bible, God's Holy Word, continuously points to who we are in Christ who is our redemption. We are not who we used to be, dead in our sin... we are made new!

Genesis 1:26 (HCSB)

Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness...

Romans 8:29 (HCSB)

For those He foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son...

2 Pet 1:3-4 (ESV)

His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire.

2 Corinthians 5:17-18 (YLT)

so that if anyone [is] in Christ -- [he is] a new creature; the old things did pass away, lo, become new have the all things. And the all things [are] of God, who reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and did give to us the ministrations of the reconciliation,

He promises to make us new. Look at ALL the I WILL's God speaks to us...

Ezekiel 36:25-27

I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

So, are we walking in our new creation? His divine nature?

1 John 3:6-9

Everyone who remains in Him does not sin; everyone who sins has not seen Him or known Him. Little children, let no one deceive you! The one who does what is right is righteous, just as He is righteous. The one who commits sin is of the Devil, for the Devil has sinned from the beginning. The Son of God was revealed for this purpose: to destroy the Devil's works. Everyone who has been born of God does not sin, because His seed remains in him; he is not able to sin, because he has been born of God.

Remember in Week 1, we determined the root of our problems was sin? If we have been set free from sin, are we still struggling in sin? If so, why? God has the answer...

Put off the old and put on Christ.

This is a process of transformation that begins when we are born again.

Ephesians 2:15 (AMPC)

By abolishing in His [own crucified] flesh the enmity [caused by] the Law with its decrees and ordinances [which He annulled]; that He from the two might create in Himself one new man [one new quality of humanity out of the two], so making peace.

2 Corinthians 3:18 (HCSB)

We all, with unveiled faces, are looking as in a mirror at the glory of the Lord and are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory...

Ephesians 4:22-24 (HCSB)

You took off your former way of life, the old self that is corrupted by deceitful desires; you are being renewed in the spirit of your minds; you put on the new self, the one created according to God's likeness in righteousness and purity of the truth.

Romans 23:14 (HCSB)

But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no plans to satisfy the fleshly desires...

The best part?

God promises to do the work in us!! It is not up to us to transform ourselves; He does the work as we rest in Him. He is our guarantor.

Philippians 2:13 (AMPC)

[Not in your own strength] for it is God Who is all the while effectually at work in you [energizing and creating in you the power and desire], both to will and to work for His good pleasure and satisfaction and delight.

We CAN be transformed into His image if we believe in what He did, what He called us into, our new creation. The thing is, since we are in a relationship with God, we are required to cooperate with the process. This means it is an active 'putting off' and 'putting on'.

Turn Your Will Over to God

Back to our will. We are not our thoughts. We are not our emotions. We are our will.

2 Corinthians 10:3-5 (HCSB)

For though we live in the body, we do not wage war in an unspiritual way, since the weapons of our warfare are not worldly, but are powerful through God for the demolition of strongholds. We demolish arguments and every high-minded thing that is raised up against the knowledge of God, taking every thought captive to obey Christ.

God was intentional in His decision (process). He took action (plan), based on His decision, as we read in Genesis 1:26, Romans 12:2, and 1 Corinthians 2:14-16.

1 Corinthians 2:14-16

But the unbeliever does not welcome what comes from God's Spirit, because it is foolishness to him; he is not able to understand it since it is evaluated spiritually. The spiritual person, however, can evaluate everything, yet he himself cannot be evaluated by anyone. For who has known the Lord's mind, that he may instruct Him? But we have the mind of Christ.

He made us like Him and gave us His mind to think like Him. This means we can learn from the process God teaches.

Process > Decision > Action

We can go through the process, make a decision, and then act upon that decision. When God works to renew our mind, we are renewing our thoughts, will, and emotions and how they work together. If we understand the process we are able to move on to decision and action that brings us peace.

An unrenewed mind bypasses the will... meaning we feel like we have no control over our thoughts and emotions.

Example:

Unrenewed mind: a thought jumps to a conclusion; an assumption about the motive of another person's actions or words. Emotions then respond because the unrenewed mind thinks if the emotions and the thoughts line up, they must both be right! This is because the processor in an unrenewed mind is unable to discern rightly. The will is bypassed by the unrenewed mind.

Renewed mind: a thought jumps to a conclusion; an assumption about the motive of another person's actions or words. The renewed mind uses the will to look at the thoughts and emotions and determine the truth before taking action.

The will takes you through (renewing) what God's Word says. When a thought lines up with His Word (love, forgiveness, knowing who You are in Christ, understanding another may be in their old nature), the emotions line up with the thoughts (love, peace) and your actions then become one with God (you pray for the person) and you don't fall into anger, fear, anxiety, etc.

Romans 12:1-2 (ESV)

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. Do 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.

Remember Zephaniah 3:15 (ESV)

The LORD has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil.

“I am transformed by cooperating with the Holy Spirit in me, learning the character of Jesus as He writes it on my heart, so I learn to put off my old nature and live in His. I AM the NEW CREATION! “

“The Holy Spirit helps me to see the process of transformation. I cannot make it happen. It’s all by grace through faith that I am what I am. The power and purpose of the Word is for transformation into His image.”

New Creation Prayer

Thank You, Father, that you have cleansed me and given me a new heart with a new spirit and removed my heart of stone. You saved me and chose me to be sanctified by Your Holy Spirit through faith in Your Word so I may walk in Your divine nature, abiding in You.

Thank You, Father, that by grace through faith, I see myself in Christ Jesus. My old nature is passed away and I am now made new in Christ. You provide me the knowledge and the power in Your Word so I may be transformed.

Your Holy Word works in me to renew my mind and transform me into Your image. Thank You, Lord, that I am reconciled to You and have been given everything You have in exchange for everything I had. I am dead to sin, no longer connected to the world’s darkness, and alive in Christ Jesus!

I am made new, not by my own efforts, but from the work You did on the cross. Thank You, Lord, that You enable me to put away my old self and all of my old ways and You help me to put on my new self in Your image and divine nature filled with kindness, meekness, humility, patience, love, and forgiveness. You are always working in me, creating in me the power and desire to will and to work for Your good pleasure. You promise to do this in me! Thank You Lord!!

You promise to never stop doing good to me! You delight in doing me good. You, Lord, are my stronghold from the curse of the law. You are the only stronghold I need. My words, that come from You, are spirit and life and Your words will never depart out of my mouth. I thank You that I am found holy, faultless, and blameless in You because I abide in Your righteousness and purity of truth. Thank You Lord!!!

I abide in You Lord, so I bear Your fruit, Your presence, Your power, Your holiness, Your joy, Your peace, Your love, Your inheritance, and I do the works that You did, in Your name.