



## **RENEWING THE MIND - PART 7**

This resource will focus on “taking the thoughts captive” that come our way, either from self-talk, the voice of others or the voice of the demonic.

***2 Corinthians 10:5 We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ.***

The renewing of our minds by the Spirit and the taking of every thought captive which is not of Christ through discipline, is to be a continuous process in our lives as His followers.

Once the mind has been renewed to a particular truth, i.e. being accepted by Christ as we are, a person will no longer struggle with the spirit of rejection, because the mind has a brand new way of thinking which leads to life. The old pattern of thinking has been completely replaced with a brand new way of thinking. The goal for every follower is to enter into having the entire or complete mind of Christ, and be able to prove the will of God by the way we live.

***Romans 12:2 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.***

While this process of having our minds renewed to His mind is going on, it is imperative we know and learn how to bring every thought which is not of God under the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ. We must take these thoughts captive and subject them under Christ’s Lordship, His Truth.

Failure to do this will have these thoughts take shape in our minds, and these thoughts start creating beliefs and patterns of beliefs which ultimately become very destructive to us personally and those around us. We must not entertain the thoughts and give them any real estate in our minds, as very quickly we will find them occupying the entire landscape of our minds.

Ultimately what we think we believe, what we believe we speak and what we speak we live out. Our behaviours are directly linked and associated to how we think and what we think about ourselves and others.

The key to breaking the power of these demonic thoughts is in the “name of Jesus.” We see physical healings take place in the name of Jesus and the breaking of these demonic thoughts are no different. The power to smash these strongholds lies in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. This is why it is essential we come to know Him for who He truly is, so when we speak in His name, His authority and power are released to defeat these thoughts.

We have to be aware that thoughts are like seeds and just like the Word of God is a seed which bears life, the demonic thoughts are seeds which bear death if received, accepted and believed. The same process applies for both seeds, and we know we have an enemy who throws out seeds which produce weeds in



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the field along with the good crops.

The mind can become a battlefield, hence the Scriptures teach us to prepare our minds for action.

***1 Peter 1:13 Therefore, prepare your minds for action, keep sober in spirit, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.***

We are taught to fight the good fight, and it's essential we know that the fight we are in is a spiritual one against spiritual forces, which come to devour us. The attack on the mind is one of the ways the principalities of darkness look to destroy humanity. Thoughts of death, depression, insecurity, jealousy, anxiousness, worry, not being good enough, rejection, fear etc. are all sent to destroy us and must be taken captive, rebuked and denounced in Jesus' name.

Here is just an example of a prayer one can pray if one is struggling with thoughts which are not of Him and are destructive. These are just words but when declared with a conviction of spirit, these words become the sword of the Spirit.

"Father in the name of Jesus Christ, I take these demonic thoughts captive by the blood of Jesus and I break the power off them in Jesus name. I rebuke and denounce them and break any stronghold they may have on and over me. Father I ask you to set me free from these demonic thoughts in Jesus name, renewing my mind to yours."

You may want to write this prayer down and marinate yourself in it. Ask the Holy Spirit to write these words on your heart through power so when you speak of them they have life and power upon them to break spiritual strongholds.

## **QUESTIONS:**

1. Why is the renewing of the mind continuously by the Spirit, God's first placed position and taking every thought captive secondary?
2. Why is knowing who Christ is so important in taking thoughts captive and being able in His name to break the power of them over us?
3. How aware are you of the principalities of darkness that operate?
4. How equipped do you believe you are to deal with these thoughts in your own life and in the lives of others?

**GROUP ACTIVITY:** Pray for one another and take any demonic thoughts captive, breaking the power of them off the person in Jesus' name.