

## Do You Have a Renewed Mind?

### Word

#### Scripture Reference

Romans 12:2

#### Discussion Questions

1. What worldly lifestyles and values do you tend to be tempted to follow?
2. Read Romans 12:2. The apostle Paul warns that the world wants us to take its shape, to conform to its patterns, interests, expectations and attitudes. God has saved us from this world. The Lord Jesus has freed us from its bondage of sin. Paul says it makes sense that we do not conform to the world but instead be transformed. What does Paul mean? How should a believer be different from those who do not follow Christ?
3. The word *metamorphosis* means “to be transformed.” How is the metamorphosis of a caterpillar into a butterfly similar to transformation of a person who has come to know Christ? How have you transformed since you became a Christian? Share with the group.
4. When Paul talked about transformation, he didn’t mean mere outward changes. He said that we must be metamorphosed, meaning to be changed internally. How are you changed from within? In Greek, “be transformed” is in passive present continuous form. Paul is saying to “continue to let yourselves be transformed,” meaning a continuous work is done in us and to us. Who may do this work? What does sanctification mean in 2 Thessalonians 2:13? What new things does the Holy Spirit create in a new Christian in order for him or her be sanctified?

5. If sanctification is the work of the Spirit, why does Paul speak of it as a command? How should you respond to the Holy Spirit’s in your life? Read Philippians 2:12-13. What responsibility do you need to fulfill in order to be transformed?
6. Paul says to “*be transformed...by the renewing of our mind.*” Christianity is not a mindless, emotional or mystical religion. You cannot live the Christian life without thinking. Your mind is the guard of your soul. You must be transformed by the renewing of your minds. How can you renew your mind? Read John 17:17 and John 8:31-32. What are these verses telling you about life transformation? How do you continue in the Word? Discuss the worldly things that could dumb down your mind. What are the pleasures of this world that could rob you of time spent studying and listening to God’s Word? How does God’s Word stop you from growing the wrong way and enable you to grow towards love and faith? What happens when you are transformed by the renewing of your mind (Romans 12:2)?

### Walk

God has already laid the foundation for the work of transformation in your life. Though your metamorphosis is not yet completed, and will not be completed until you see Jesus, you can already begin to enjoy the life of a spiritual butterfly. Exercise your wings in prayer. Feed on the sweet nectar of the Word. Cooperate with the Holy Spirit as He transforms you in to the likeness of Christ. What is one step you can take this week toward disregarding ways that merely conform to the world’s pattern? Do you want to know the will of God for your life? How can you discern it?

### Worship & Prayer

*Father, thank You for Jesus’ work on the cross that assured me victory over the world. Thank You for the Holy Spirit’s work in my life that allows me to be transformed day by day in little steps. Grant me the strength of will, Lord, to not be conformed to this world, but to become more like Jesus instead. Change me from within, so that Your light may shine through. In Christ’s name, Amen.*