

Fall CONSECRATION
at FOUNDATION CHURCH

BE YE
TRANSFORMED
Romans 12:1-2

OCTOBER 15-17, 2026

Foundation Church,

As we journey through Fall Consecration 2026, “Be Ye Transformed,” we invite you to explore these three reflections, thoughtfully prepared by members of our pastoral team. Each offers a unique perspective on spiritual transformation, rooted in Romans 12:1&2.

Use these writings as a personal resource throughout the three days of consecration. Read them at your own pace, meditate on the scriptures, consider the reflection questions, and allow the insights to guide your personal prayer time. Whether revisited throughout the day or used during moments of quiet reflection, we pray these submissions will complement our shared experiences of prayer and worship and inspire continued spiritual growth beyond consecration.

-Rev. Rod Caesar III, Lead Pastor

PASTOR RENEE CRUMP-DEDMON

Transformation Is a Lifelong Process

When we place our faith in Christ, salvation is instantaneous or immediate. While this first step is important and is the foundation of our spiritual journey, it is only the beginning; the process of being transformed that follows, however, is a lifelong process. Transformation by definition is “a thorough or dramatic change in the form, appearance, nature, or character of

something.” To be transformed is to *shift, alter, reconstruct, rework, refashion or undergo metamorphosis*. For example, one might think of a caterpillar becoming a butterfly. A beautiful butterfly that emerges from its cocoon does not become so without struggle. In its struggle, the caterpillar sheds several layers of skin and loses tissue. These “losses,” however, help to build the butterfly’s new structure, including its eyes, wings, legs, and antennae. What is lost ultimately becomes the ingredients for the making of a new creature. So it is with the believer. If we are to be transformed, with the ultimate goal of becoming more like Christ, we can expect to struggle on our journey to becoming “new creations.” Like the caterpillar, we lose more of ourselves so that the life and character of Christ may be formed in us.

Paul in Romans 12:1-2 says this: *“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.”*

According to these verses, when we think of spiritual transformation, we understand that it is an inside-out, God-driven change of the mind and character. This metamorphosis is not a surface-level change, but rather a profound internal change. So often, knowing “what” to do can be simple. The “how” to do it is the challenge. The good news is that God’s Word gives us the blueprint for transformation, but even a blueprint can seem overwhelming and leave us feeling that transformation is beyond our reach. A careful and prayerful reading of Romans 12:1-2, however, provides both the “what” and “how” that lead to a changed mind and a changed character. Transformation requires:

1. The mercies of God. That’s His part. Through His abundant mercy,

we are admonished to present our bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing. We cannot present ourselves as holy or pleasing to God apart from His mercy resting on our lives. John 15:5 tells us that apart from Him, we can do nothing (of lasting spiritual value). Transformation is the result of God, through the working of His Holy Spirit, changing us on the inside (our hearts and minds) through the inner working of His Spirit. Our hearts are sinful, broken, and desperately wicked. It is God alone who is able to change our hearts and make us righteous and holy. This change on the inside is manifested and affects our behavior on the outside - our values, words, deeds, choices, desires and interests, etc.

2. Sacrifice. That's our part. We are to present or offer our bodies (lives) as "living sacrifices." It is a conscious choice we get to make or not. This voluntary offering of our lives is a form of worship rendered in response to God's grace and mercy. Lamentations 3:22 tells us that "It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed...". Sacrifice is something that we don't like to talk about, much less do, because sacrifice costs us something - something that we'd prefer to be, have, or do. Sacrifice can be painful because it asks us to give up something that we'd much rather hold on to. In I Chronicles 21:24, David was offered a threshing floor in which to worship God without payment, but his understanding of the essence of sacrifice is found in his response, "I will not offer that which costs me nothing."

3. Action. We must put "feet to our faith." James says it this way: "Faith without works is dead" (James 2:17, 20, 26). As the saying goes, "If you fail to plan, you plan to fail." In other words, in presenting our bodies, we cannot simply rely on God's mercy alone; we must take some responsibility for our transformation by creating and following through on a plan of action with specific steps toward our goal. For example, if you know that you have a weakness for chocolate cake, it will do you well to avoid walking past your favorite bakery on your way home from work.

Transformation is God's will. Transformation is possible. Transformation occurs when we trust God to do His part and we commit to doing ours.

Reflection

- The altar is a place of sacrifice. What are the idols in your life that need to be torn down? What are the altars you need to build or rebuild? Think about what is keeping you from being truly transformed.
- In what way(s) can you present your body (or make available your life) in active service and worship to God?
- We are to also reject the world's values and renew our minds. Our minds are renewed by the "washing of the water of the Word" (of God). Our minds are washed and renewed when we immerse ourselves in Scripture, Ephesians 5:25-27. In what area(s) do you need your mind renewed?
- What world pattern or ideology have you adopted that is counter to God's Word? Seek God for a scripture that speaks to that wrong thinking.
- What is one or two areas in your life that God is wanting to transform? What are some definitive, measurable steps you can take in moving forward in the right direction?
- One of the benefits of transformation is the ability to discern God's will for your life. What is God's will for your life during this season?

PASTOR SHANEKWA HICKS

Proving the Good, Acceptable, and Perfect Will of God

God created us as embodied beings - soul, spirit, mind, and body woven together as one unified person. Our bodies express what is formed in our

hearts and minds. Jesus clearly stated in Matthew 15:19 (KJ21), “For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies:” These are actions that are carried out in the body but originate in the heart.

The Book of Romans tells us the full gospel in chapters 1-11. When the book pivots from theological treatise to practical response, it focuses on our answer to God’s great salvation. The apostle Paul beseeches us to present our bodies as a living sacrifice, be transformed by the renewing of our minds, not be conformed to the world, and prove the good, acceptable, and perfect will of God. Why? Why do we need to prove the good, acceptable, and perfect will of God? What is the connection between proving God’s will, the transformation of our minds, and being a living sacrifice?

Let’s go back to the beginning. When God made man, God’s will for them was to “Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.” (Genesis 1:28) When sin entered, wickedness, evil, corruption, and decay filled the heart of man. The Scriptures put it in this manner, “every man did that which was right in his own eyes.” Sin permanently altered our ability to know and do the will of God. As a result, God no longer had image bearers on the earth that would be fruitful and multiply after God’s kind of human.

Through the gospel, renewal begins. God restores what sin has broken by conforming us into the image of Christ - the true and perfect image bearer. But this transformation is not automatic; it requires our willing participation. We must present our bodies - the instruments through which righteousness or unrighteousness is expressed - and our minds to be renewed and reshaped by the Spirit. As we submit to this process daily,

our minds become aligned with the mind of Christ, and our lives then prove or demonstrate the good, acceptable, and perfect will of God. We regain the royal privilege of showing His glory, majesty, and goodness to the world. God desires to reveal Himself through His people, but this requires a continual dying to the old nature and a continual yielding to His Spirit.

If God clothes the lilies of the field with beauty surpassing Solomon's glory, how much more can He shape and adorn our lives when we surrender ourselves to Him?

PASTOR JOHN SHERROD

Renewed Minds, Transformed Lives

One of God's unchanging principles throughout Scripture is this: **reinforcement produces transformation.** Whatever is continually planted, repeated, and established in the heart will eventually shape character, behavior, and lifestyle. True spiritual victory comes when God's Word is reinforced in our minds until it becomes the governing influence of our lives.

The Law Reinforced God's Ways

When God gave Israel the Ten Commandments and the Levitical laws, He instructed them to continually teach, read, speak, and remember His commandments (Deuteronomy 6:6-7). Through constant repetition, God was revealing His holiness and training His people in His ways. The law showed Israel what righteousness looked like, but it could not change the heart.

The Promise of an Internal Law

God promised a better covenant:

"I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts." (Jeremiah 31:33)

Paul confirms this promise:

"Written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God... in fleshy tables of the heart." (2 Corinthians 3:3)

God's goal was never merely external obedience, but internal transformation. What was once written on stone would be written on human hearts.

Christ Made It Possible

Jesus fulfilled the law and, through His death and resurrection, made it possible for believers to receive the Holy Spirit. The Spirit now works within us, continually reinforcing God's truth, renewing our minds, and conforming us to the image of Christ. What the law commanded, Christ empowers.

Walking in the Spirit

Galatians 5:16 says:

"Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh."

As believers continually meditate on God's Word, pray, worship, and yield to the Spirit, divine truth is reinforced in the heart. The result is transformation: fear becomes faith, bondage becomes freedom, weakness becomes strength, and defeat becomes victory.

Conclusion

From the Ten Commandments, to the promise of a new heart, to Christ's work on the cross, God has consistently demonstrated this truth:

Reinforcement leads to transformation. As God's Word is continually written upon our hearts by the Holy Spirit, our minds are renewed, our character is changed, and we experience a lifestyle of victory spiritually, emotionally, and physically for the glory of God.

Questions for Meditation

1. What voices, thoughts, or influences am I reinforcing daily, and are they helping renew my mind according to God's Word or conforming me to the world?
2. What specific Scripture has God been impressing upon my heart that I need to meditate on and apply more consistently so that it can produce deeper transformation?
3. In what area of my life do I need to more intentionally walk in the Spirit, allowing God's truth to overcome the desires and habits of the flesh?

"Be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind..."

Renewal through reinforcement produces transformation, and transformation produces a life of continual victory in Christ.

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