

Week 2

Transformation

A New Heart

The message of Jesus is one of transformation, not just on the surface, but deep within. The Bible talks about becoming a “new creation,” not through self-improvement, but through a heart made new by God. It’s not about quick fixes or perfect behavior. It’s about being open to change that starts from the inside out. This kind of change doesn’t usually happen all at once. It takes time. We must learn to trust, to grow, and to let go of what’s weighing us down. No matter where you are in your journey, God wants to start something new in your heart. Are you open to it?

Read Ezekiel 36:26

What areas of your life need God’s touch today?

How does God’s gift of a new heart change the way I approach life and relationships today?

²⁶ I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

Renewing Your Mind

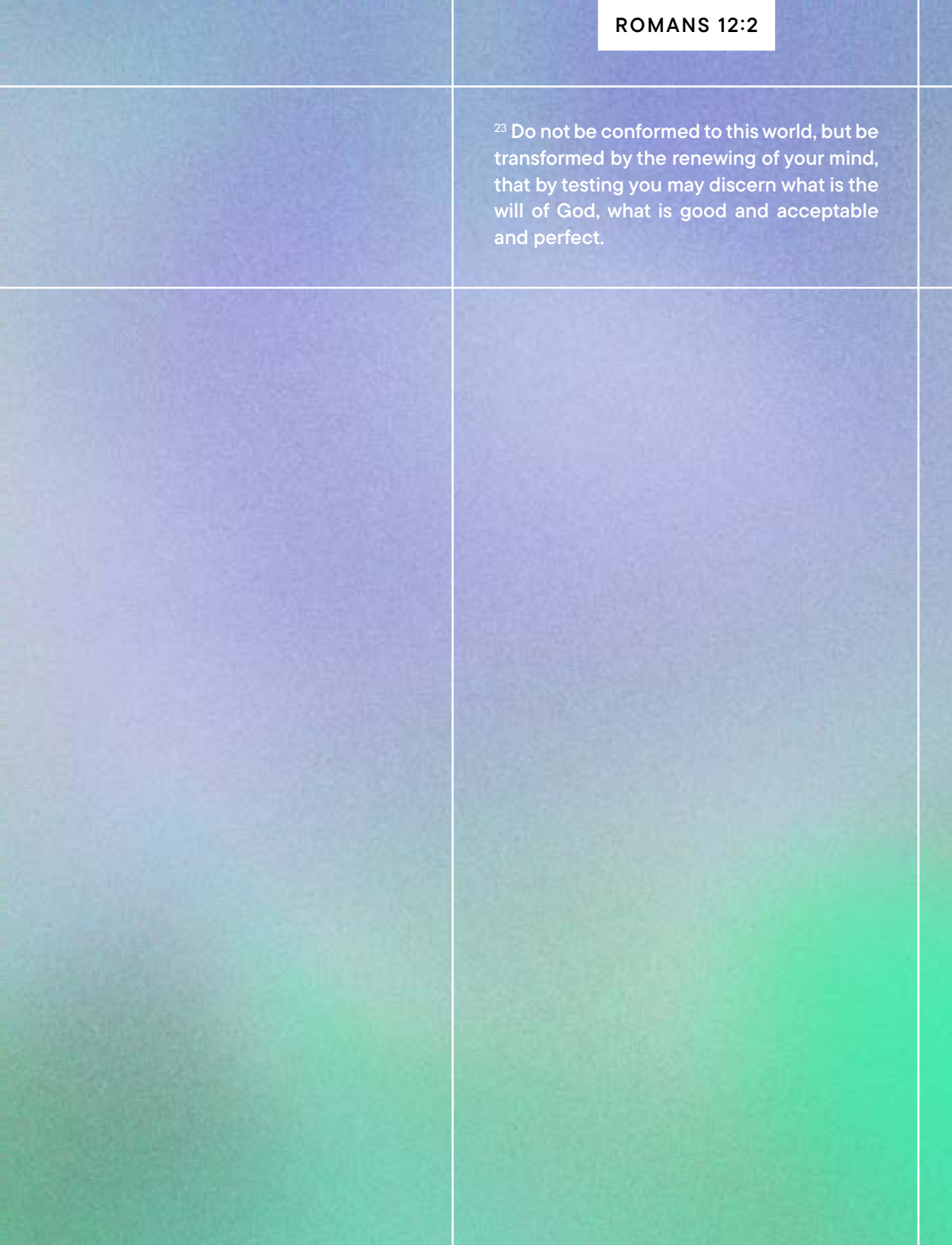
We live in a world that constantly tells us how to think, what to value, and who we should be. But Paul reminds us that transformation starts with our minds. It’s about choosing God’s truth over the world’s lies and letting His Word shape how we see ourselves and others. The process of renewing our minds isn’t instant; it’s daily.

Read Romans 12:2

How can you align your thoughts more closely with God’s? What lies do you need to replace with His truth?

How does God’s Word challenge the way I think about myself and my purpose in life?

²³ Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.



God’s Not Finished Yet

Have you ever started something with good intentions, maybe a goal, a habit, or a fresh start, only to lose steam along the way? We all know what it’s like to begin with hope and then face setbacks, doubts, or distractions. That’s why this verse is so powerful. It reminds us that when God starts something in us, He doesn’t give up. Even if you’re not sure what you believe yet, just the fact that you’re curious, asking questions, or searching for something more might be the beginning of His work in you. And the good news? God finishes what He starts. You don’t have to have it all figured out. You just need to be open.

Read Philippians 1:6

What is holding you back from opening your heart to God?

What if God is more patient and committed to your growth than you’ve ever imagined?

⁸ And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

The Power of the Spirit

Life can sometimes feel like a tug-of-war between who we are and who we want to be. This passage in Galatians talks about that inner struggle, the tension between our natural impulses and the life God offers through His Spirit. It’s honest about the mess but also full of hope. The “fruit of the Spirit” isn’t about forcing ourselves to be better people. It’s about what starts to grow in us when we begin to walk with God (things like love, joy, peace, and patience). It’s not instant or perfect, but it’s real. The idea here isn’t about trying harder, but being open to a different way, one led by the Spirit, not by pressure or shame.

Read Galatians 5:16-24

What qualities do you want to see growing in your life?

If God’s Spirit really does lead to things like peace and joy, would you want to know Him more?

Keep in Step with the Spirit

¹⁶ But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. ¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, ²¹ envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. ²⁴ And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

New Creation

Becoming a Christian isn't just about following a bunch of rules; it's about receiving a new identity. Today's reading says that if we are in Christ, we are a new creation. That means the old ways, the shame, the patterns we couldn't break on our own, Jesus doesn't hold those things over us. He gives us a fresh start, and He begins a lifelong work of transformation in us. Even if you're still figuring out what you believe, know this: God isn't asking you to clean yourself up before coming to Him. He's offering you something new, something only He can do in you.

Read *2 Corinthians 5:17*

Do I truly believe that the old is gone? What does it look like to live as the new creation I am in Christ?

How does God's promise of making me a new creation change the way I live and view my past?

¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!