

DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE

LIVING TRANSFORMED | WEEK 01 | SEPTEMBER 6, 2026

KNOW GOD. | GROW TOGETHER. | LIVE DIFFERENTLY.

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

As followers of Jesus, we're called not simply to hear God's Word, but to allow it to transform the way we live. This guide is designed to help you apply Sunday's message into the week—growing in your relationship with God, having meaningful conversations with others, and putting what you're learning into practice. Read the Scripture, reflect on what God is teaching you, apply it to your life, pray with purpose, and go deeper—on your own, with your family, or in your connect group. Our hope is that as we spend time in God's Word and respond to what He is teaching us, we will know God, grow together, and live differently.

WEEKLY SUMMARY

DIFFERENT: *Following Jesus in a World That Pulls Us Away*

The world around us is constantly shaping what we value, pursue, and believe. But Jesus calls us to something different—not simply to look different on the outside, but to be transformed from the inside out.

In Romans 12:1–2, Paul shows us that transformation begins with surrender. Because of God's mercy, we offer our whole lives to Him—our plans, relationships, habits, ambitions, and future. As we surrender, God renews our minds through His Word, replacing the voices of the world with His truth. And as our thinking changes, the way we live begins to change too.

Jesus cannot transform what I refuse to surrender.

KEY VERSE

Therefore, brothers and sisters, in view of the mercies of God, I urge you to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God; this is your true worship. Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may discern what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God.

ROMANS 12: 1-2 (CSB)

RESOURCES

SERMON: *Different: Following Jesus in a World That Pulls Us Away* | 6 SEPTEMBER 2026 | PASTOR PAUL MILLIGAN

THIS WEEK IN THE WORD: SURRENDER-PROVERBS 3: 5-6 | FOLLOW-LUKE 9:23-25 | RENEW-COLOSSIANS 3:1-10 | ABIDE-JOHN 15: 1-8 | LIVE DIFFERENTLY -EPHESIANS 4:20-24

GOING DEEPER

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READ

As you read this week's Scriptures, consider what they reveal about surrender, the influences shaping your mind, and the kind of transformation Jesus desires in you.

SURRENDER

What do these passages reveal about the difference between adding Jesus to the life you have chosen and truly surrendering your life to Him?

INFLUENCE

As you read and reflect this week, what competing voices or influences do you recognize shaping what you value, pursue, believe, or define as success? Where does God's Word challenge those messages?

TRANSFORMATION

Where do you see a connection between surrendering to Jesus, renewing your mind, and actually living differently?

REFLECT

Pastor Paul reminded us that a living sacrifice can "crawl off the altar." We may surrender something to God, only to take it back when His direction becomes difficult, uncomfortable, or different from what we wanted.

WHAT AM I HOLDING ONTO?

What area of your life have you surrendered with your words but are still trying to control with your choices?

WHAT IS SHAPING ME?

Consider what receives most of your attention throughout the week. What voices—culture, social media, fear, your past, other people's opinions, or something else—may be shaping your thinking more than God's truth?

WHAT IS GOD REVEALING?

Spend time with Jesus in prayer and ask Him: "What needs to be different in me?" What is He bringing to your attention?

APPLY

Transformation moves from surrender to obedience. As God renews the way you think, He begins to change the way you live.

WHAT NEEDS TO LOOK DIFFERENT?

Pastor Paul asked, "Because I follow Jesus, what should look different in my life?" What is one area where your choices, habits, priorities, relationships, or responses need to look different?

PRAY

Spend a few quiet moments with God. Ask Him to reveal anything you are still holding back, renew the places where your thinking has been shaped by voices other than His, and give you courage to live differently.