

TRANSFORMED LIFE

ROMANS 12:2

And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

The thing we must realize is that the MIND takes the shape that we expose it to.

So if you expose it to MTV it takes the shape of MTV, if you expose it to channel O, it takes a channel O shape.

But if you expose it to the WORD of God, it takes the WORD of God shape.

What you expose your MIND to determines your internal atmosphere and your internal atmosphere determines your external atmosphere.

So you cannot be manifesting on the outside what your heart is NOT CARRYING on the INSIDE.

Jesus said in **Matthew 12:34** “**Out of the Abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks**”

You only SAY what is already in there.

You only manifest on the outside what you are loaded with on the INSIDE.

So if there are manifestations in your life that you don't approve of, don't be frustrated about them, just CHANGE YOUR INTERNAL STRUCTURE and they will CHANGE

If you are Not producing the kind of results in your life that you KNOW you should, don't blame it on your background, or your gender, or academic qualifications

Just change WHO you are on the INSIDE.

How, you ask me, BY the RENEWING of your mind – the INFORMATION that you ALLOW to SHAPE YOUR MIND.

You are only as POOR as you think you ARE.!

You are only as SUCCESSFUL as you think you ARE!

You are only as IMPACTFUL as you think you ARE!

WHO YOU ARE ON THE INSIDE is what will determine the kind of Results you generate on the OUTSIDE.

That is why Brother, you must NOT allow yourself to move on a lady just because she looks good on the outside – NO, good looks are NOT ENOUGH

What is on the INSIDE!

Jesus taught in **Matt 12:35** “a good man out of the good treasure of the HEART bringeth forth GOOD THINGS and an evil man out of the EVIL TREASURE of his HEART bringeth forth evil things”

God is in the business of TRANSFORMING us, INSIDE OUT so that we can produce the kind of results that will give glory to HIM.

Where you are is NOT your IDEAL location, what you are experiencing is NOT the ULTIMATE – THERE IS MORE

“Accepting responsibility is the FIRST and FOREMOST step towards CHANGE. If you avoid the PRICE OF RESPONSIBILITY you DISQUALIFY YOURSELF FOR GREATNESS”.

You don't WISH PROBLEMS away – problems don't disappear because you wish them away BUT they are solved by CONFRONTING them head on.

What you don't confront in your life will never move from your life – So look at yourself in the MIRROR and see the areas that need confrontation.

The word of God is a mirror by which we look at ourselves and then based on what we see – we begin to confront what needs confronting because “we are responsible for where WE ARE”.

It is confrontation that BRINGS CHANGE. – What you don't confront in your life will remain STATIC and UNMOVING. But what you tell “you are CHANGING” – Guess what, it must CHANGE.

THERE are three realities of TIME. There is the PAST, the PRESENT and the FUTURE.

The PAST has already happened and it exists in our memory.

The PRESENT is what is unfolding RIGHT NOW and therefore it can be observed and appreciated.

The FUTURE exists in our IMAGINATION. So it has not happened and therefore there is NO REFERENCE POINT.

Now this is where the problem comes – most people's lives are lived in TWO dimensions ONLY – The memories of the PAST and the observations of the PRESENT.

These kinds of people respond to what has happened and what is happening.

However, those who will succeed in LIFE are those who refused the PAST and the PRESENT to control them BUT use their MINDS to DESIGN the future that they DESIRE.

Those who are able to harness the POWER of forward looking imagination are able to SET OUT what the future would be like.

So now they visualize where they want to be in 5 years, 10years, 15 years and then they BEGIN to PURSUE what they ENVISION until they POSSESS their DREAM.

Write this down very important

“Your FUTURE SUCCESS does NOT RESIDE in your PRESENT STRUGGLES BUT in your ABILITY to SEE and WORK towards your DESIRED SUCCESS”.

Philipians 3:23- Apostle Paul puts in this way “**Not as though I had already attained either were already perfect BUT I FOLLOW AFTER, that I may APPREHEND that for which ALSO I am APPREHENDED in CHRIST**”.

He continues “**forgetting those things which are BEHIND and reaching forth for the things which are before, I PRESS FOR THE PRICE OF THE HIGH CALLING OF GOD**”.

That is why you cannot exchange your future success for your PRESENT circumstances.

You must make the CHOICE to live in discomfort today so that you can create a better opportunity tomorrow.

You must make a CHOICE to miss out on short-term pleasure for the sake of long-term purpose.

Don't allow TODAY'S DESPERATION to make you ignore the consequences of your actions on your FUTURE.

This is exactly what happened to ESAU, he comes home hungry from the field.

And he blows it BIG TIME.

Now the Bible says **Genesis 25:27** - “**Esau was a skillful hunter and a man of the field**”. “**Jacob was a mild man dwelling in tents**”.

So as a hunter – Esau’s work was to chase animals, run after the animal and kill it. That is to say – he expended a lot of energy after chasing one animal, only to kill it, eat it and have to chase another one tomorrow.

But Jacob was a mild man – when you study the word Mild man, it connotes a quiet, strategic person.

Jacob was a strategist, a contemplator who was a cultivator – which means, where as Esau chased with a lot of effort only to kill- Jacob produced by thinking how to breed and multiply the animals he had.

These are very different paradigms – two very different thought patterns.

What is your paradigm about life and what do you need to do to be a SUCCESS.

Your PARADIGMS will affect the results you achieve in life.

So Esau comes home hungry and he enters into negotiations with his younger brother Jacob.

“Feed me, with the soup for I am hungry and famished”

Jacob the strategist tells him “If I want any SOUP, let it be the equivalent value for your Birthright”.

And Esau for a bowl of soup says “what profit shall this birthright do to me?”.

Just because he had a temporary need, he sold off his birth right on the alter of gratifying the crying of the flesh.

TRANSFORMATION will take place when you place VALUE on your future instead of satisfying and pleasing the flesh.

I love what my papa Bishop T.D Jakes says “don’t make PERMANENT DECISIONS BASED on a TEMPORARY SITUATION”.

You cannot sacrifice your FUTURE POTENTIAL on the ALTAR of PRESENT GRATIFICATION.

“Every choice you make has a CONSEQUENCE”.

Esau exchanges his birthright – the right to be the heir of his father Isaac – for a bowl of soup.

Look with me at **Hebrews 12:15-17**.

¹⁵Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;

¹⁶Lest there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright.

¹⁷For ye know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears.

Two kinds of people we compared to Esau

Fornicator

A person who takes that which is precious and sells it cheaply.

Profane person

A person who takes that which is Holy and sacred and dishonors it.

Verse 17 is very important. (Amplified)

¹⁷For you understand that later on, when he wanted [to regain title to] his inheritance of the blessing, he was rejected (disqualified and set aside), for he could find no opportunity to repair by repentance [what he had done, no chance to recall the choice he had made], although he sought for it carefully with [bitter] tears.

I want to give you four important lessons from this account

1. Don't exaggerate your need

You are not the first one to go through what you are going through.

That is why the Bible says in **1Corinthians 10:13** “**There has no TEMPTATION taken you BUT such as in common to man – what you are going through is common to man”.**

You are not the first on to be booted- right now, somebody is being booted.

“But God is faithful He will not allow you to be tempted above that which you are not able to bear, but will with the temptations also make a way of escape ”.

Don't magnify your problem – you can make it.

Esau thought he will die because he had not eaten launch .

You will not die – but live to declare the goodness of the Lord.

Don't exaggerate your need.

2. Place value on what you possess

Even if to somebody else what you have is insignificant, you put value on it and watch it bless you.

Proverbs 17:8 says “A gift is a precious stone in the eyes of him that hath it, whatsoever he doeth, it PROSPERS”.

Value your gift as a precious stone – value your skills, value your temperament, value your purity, value your walk with God.

Don't be like a profane person who has no value for the sacred things of God.

What you do not value will never ADD value in your life.

3. Don't make important decisions when you are emotionally drained
When you are not in good emotional shape, let the decision wait.

Esau made a critical decision when he was hungry and tired – And he messed big time.

If you are not in good shape emotionally and spiritually – maybe you have gone through something tough like being booted or your face has broken all manner of pimples and you are emotionally drained – WAIT.

Don't make important decisions on adrenalin or testosterone (brother)
WAIT.

Sometimes you can be under so much pressure, at work, home, in college, that you find that you are making important choices under pressure – JUST WAIT.

Don't allow age to put pressure on you to get married – you don't have to marry any joker just because you are under pressure of age – WAIT FOR THE RIGHT GUY.

In fact if right now you are in a relationship and you are having second thoughts CALL IT OFF for some time.

4 STRATEGISE for your DESTINY

Just because you are gifted it doesn't mean you will succeed –just because you are talented, it doesn't mean you will go to the TOP

You must formulate a strategy to take you to the TOP

ACTIVITY DOES NOT NECESSARILY EQUAL PRODUCTIVITY

Work smart not just working HARD

Be like JACOB, sit in your TENT and THINK.

Four things that are important: -

PLAN – have a plan for your destiny

PREPARE – go back to school if you have to and prepare for where you are going

PERSIST - don't be detoured by discouragement, stay your course, No matter the PRICE

PURSUE, PURSUE, PURSUE - go for it. Its not coming on a silver platter

You must push, you must wake up early and go for it.