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STAY ON COURSE


March 22th, 2009



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- You can't be a mature follower of Jesus without certain beliefs. (e.g., Jesus is fully God & fully man)
- But, Christianity isn't a doctrine to believe in, it is a living person to experience. (e.g., Pharisees)
- Just because we believe the right things doesn't mean we'll do the right things. (e.g., smoke)



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- Biblical maturity is more than just right doctrine. Biblical maturity is about renewing our mind. It is about replacing the lies we believe with the truth.
- Romans 12:1-2, "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 true 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."






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- Core followers love Jesus with their whole heart. They don't search the Scripture for knowledge; they search the Scripture to encounter Jesus. They give themselves to God as an act of worship.
- But the lies we believe often keep us from giving ourselves fully to God. When sin entered the world, lies entered. The kingdom reversal.




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- What we agree to, we give power to in our lives. There are two big areas where we need to renew our mind:
- First, Core followers believe the truth about God. God is good all the time. The enemy tries to get you to believe lies about God. (e.g., Adam & Even, "Did God really say you can't eat this fruit?") (e.g., loved one dies; job loss)




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- Why do bad things happen? If God is good all the time, why don't we see all of our prayers answered for good things?
- Resistance comes from three sources: The world, the flesh, and the devil. (e.g., Abraham; praying last week)

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- Second, Core Followers believe the truth about themselves. The enemy tries to get us to believe lies about ourselves. We need to agree with who God says we are. (e.g., 'you are worthless'; 'you will never overcome'; 'you can't do these things')

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