

I. ONE THING—The One Thing that I'd like to take away from today's class and believe God to accomplish in my life is:

II. MEDITATION

B. Review your class notes from Tuesday.

- Take some time to think about the main ideas of the lesson. If you want to add details to your notes, you'll find the audio message on our website under the Resources tab. (www.DivineDesignDiscipleship.com).
- Which of the scriptures referenced were particularly meaningful to you? Write out those verses below and spend some time studying them this week.

C. Rewrite your One Thing into a prayer, expressing your heart's desire for God to make this truth become your experience.

III. PRINCIPLES

Use the principles found in these Scriptures to help you understand and cultivate a new way of thinking. This process will transform you to become more and more like Christ:

A. DRIFTING

- We must keep our focus sharp in order to stay in the truth: Heb 2:1 ESV-- We must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it.
- Drift, defined: to let slip, glide by, carelessly pass, or escape the mind through neglect (Strong's)
- Let's pay attention to what God is telling us in these Scriptures so that we don't drift:
 1. Immaturity
 - Cultivating the Mind of Christ requires discipline and maturity. We must be on the alert for error, lies, and deceit and take responsibility for dealing with them: Eph 4:14-15 TLB-- No longer be like children, forever changing our minds about what we believe because someone has told us something different or has cleverly lied to us and made the lie sound like the truth. Instead, we will lovingly follow the truth at all times—speaking truly, dealing truly, living truly—and so become more and more in every way like Christ
 - As we grow in the MOC, we have greater appreciation for the consequences of contaminated thinking: Gal 5:9 TV-- You know what they say, "Just a little yeast causes all the dough to rise," so even the slightest detour from the truth will take you to a destination you do not desire.

Insights:

2. Insecurity

- Are you fully convinced that you are forgiven and accepted to the uttermost?
- Pay attention to any indicators of unbelief and renew your mind with the truth: Col 1:23 NLT-- You must continue to believe this truth and stand firmly in it. Don't drift away from the assurance you received when you heard the Good News.
- God has done everything necessary for you to be secure in your relationship with Him. He has forgiven you, redeemed your past, and invites you into His presence: Col 1:19-22 NLT-- For God in all his fullness was pleased to live in Christ, and through him God reconciled everything to himself. He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of Christ's blood on the cross. This includes you who were once far away from God. You were his enemies, separated from him by your evil thoughts and actions. Yet now he has reconciled you to himself through the death of Christ in his physical body. As a result, he has brought you into his own presence, and you are holy and blameless as you stand before him without a single fault

Insights:

3. Impurity

- "Dialogismos" is the Greek word for the thinking described in Romans 1:21. It is translated "imagination" (KJV) or "speculations" (NAS) and is defined this way: the opinion or reasoning of those who think themselves wise. (Strong's)
- When we drift away from the MOC, our defenses are lowered and our minds become subject to all kinds of unhealthy thinking: Rom 1:21 NLT-- Yes, they knew God, but they wouldn't worship him as God or even give him thanks. And they began to think up foolish ideas of what God was like. As a result, their minds became dark and confused.

- Any created thing that has our focus and that we value highly has the potential to become an idol (an object of worship).
- Pay attention to anything that hinders your loyalty and obedience to God: Ps 119:118 MSG-- Expose all who drift away from your sayings; their casual idolatry is lethal.

Insights:

B. COURSE CORRECTION

- When we drift we need correction. It is an act of love: Heb 12:6 TV-- For the Lord disciplines those He loves, and He corrects each one He takes as His own.
- Most of us do not like to be corrected: Heb 12:11 MSG-- At the time, discipline isn't much fun. It always feels like it's going against the grain. Later, of course, it pays off handsomely, for it's the well trained who find themselves mature in their relationship with God.
- Without correction we cannot possibly hope to have the wisdom of the Mind of Christ:
 - Pr 13:1 GNT-- Wise children pay attention when their parents correct them, but arrogant people never admit they are wrong.
 - Pr 15:5 MSG-- Welcoming correction is a mark of good sense.
 - Pr 25:12 BBE-- Like a nose-ring of gold and an ornament of the best gold, is a wise man who says sharp words to an ear ready to give attention.
- Paying attention to and welcoming God's correction is easier when we realize that it is intended to keep us from becoming ensnared: Ps 25:15 NLT— My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues me from the traps of my enemies.

Insights:

C. DEEP CONVICTIONS

- Our deep convictions are found at the heart level whether based on truth or lies.
- We cannot help but act upon whatever is in our hearts: Pr 4:23 NLT-- Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life.
- Address thoughts, not behaviors, to effectively deal with anywhere you've drifted from the truth:

THOUGHT → CONVICTIONS/BELEFS → ACTION

- If we believed a lie that has led us astray, we must repent of it and renounce it.
- Simon the Sorcerer of Samaria believed the lie that the power of God could be bought or earned. Philip urged him to repent: Acts 8:22-23 NIV-- Repent of this wickedness and pray to the Lord in the hope that he may forgive you for having such a thought in your heart* For I see that you are full of bitterness and captive to sin."
- Being sorry is not true repentance: Acts 8:24 NIV-- Then Simon answered, "Pray to the Lord for me so that nothing you have said may happen to me."

- We repeat sin because we never humble ourselves enough to admit that we are wrong: Rom 1:24-25 TV-- So God gave them just what their lustful hearts desired. *As a result*, they violated their bodies and invited shame into their lives. *How?* By choosing a foolish lie over God's truth.
- If we are not paying attention, we will find reasons or excuses to justify our behavior:
 - Spirit of jealousy: James 3:14 NAS-- If you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not be arrogant and so lie against the truth.
 - Jealousy is based on the lie that there is not enough goodness to go around when others do well. Their good fortune limits mine.
 - Spirit of fear: 2 Tim 1:7 AMP-- God did not give us a spirit of timidity *or* cowardice *or* fear, but [He has given us a spirit] of power and of love and of sound judgment *and* personal discipline [abilities that result in a calm, well-balanced mind and self-control].
 - Fear is based on the lie that the love of God isn't strong enough to take care of me or protect me and mine. God's will His way is not desirable or safe.
- For any place where you have drifted from God and His truth, apply the simple Gospel:
 - First, remember the first time you experienced the cleansing and forgiveness of God. Feel those feelings again. Get in touch with the gratitude and freedom that flowed.
 - Now, go back to the moment you felt the conviction of the HS about this present sin.
 - Simply and humbly admit that you are wrong. Ask for God's forgiveness.
 - With a grateful heart whose attention is fixed on Jesus, go forth in obedience to whatever it is you resisted Him on in the first place.
- Keep your attention on the promises of God that apply to your situation. Here's how:
 - First, list the desires closest to your heart. Don't hold back and don't edit.
 - Next, give your list to the Lord. Surrender it to His will His way. Then ask the Lord for any of His desires for you that you have not included. Now allow Him to help you prioritize the list.
 - Search out promises in His Word that speak to each issue. If you need help with this part, try a topical Bible, a Scripture promise book, or ask your leader.
 - Write the promises in your journal or on a separate page. Hold these promises before the Lord in prayer often so that you can RISE above your circumstances.
 - When tempted away from the MOC, ask the Holy Spirit to remind you of your promises and help you pay more attention to them than to your competing thoughts.
- 2 Cor 1:20 NIV-- For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ. And so through him the "Amen" is spoken by us to the glory of God.
- Pr 1:32-33 TLV-- For the backsliding of the naïve will kill them and the complacency of fools will destroy them. But whoever pays attention to me will live securely, and be free from the fear of evil."

Insights:

- B. Continue to apply the principles from our previous teaching on the Mind of Christ:
- Be mindful of God's good intentions. Set your intentions on the Mind of Christ, head to heart processing, commitment to God's will God's way, and to RISE above your circumstances.
 - Cultivate heart knowledge by meditating on God's word vs. skimming the surface.
 - Tools & Techniques: Elevation and Articulation (I Feel), Listening to God, Liberation, Understanding Forgiveness, Personal Inventory, and Spiritual Blessings (promises)

Keep a written record of how God ministers to you this week. If you don't have one, start a spiritual journal. Come back ready to share what you've experienced.