

- 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

A. 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.

- B. 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. HIGHER PERSPECTIVE

- If God wants to know me intimately, love me, show kindness to me, and prove His trustworthiness to me, then He must see something in me that I need to see.
- God sees us as new creations in Christ: 2 Cor 5:17--If anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.
- In order to operate with the Mind of Christ, we must have a relational view of our identity.
- Our identity is not defined by our performance but by being chosen: 1 Pt 2:9-10 NLT-- You are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light. Once you had no identity as a people; now you are God's people.
- Being in Christ assures us of the Father's acceptance and favor always: Eph 1:3-6 Phillips-- Praise be to God for giving us through Christ every possible spiritual benefit as citizens of Heaven! For consider what he has done—before the foundation of the world he chose us to become, in Christ, his holy and blameless children living within his constant care. He planned, in his purpose of love, that we should be adopted as his own children through Jesus Christ—that we might learn to praise that glorious generosity of his which has made us welcome in the everlasting love he bears towards the Son.
- We must learn to think and live from this favored place: Col 3:2-3-- Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.
- Though our circumstances are constantly changing, we have a stockpile of blessings (promises) that is unchanging and accessible: 1 Pt 1:3-4 AMP-- We have been born again to an ever-living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, [born anew] into an inheritance which is beyond the reach of change *and* decay [imperishable], unsullied and unfading, reserved in heaven for you
- Jesus was able to rise above suffering and sin by focusing on God and accessing His blessings: Heb 12:2 TV-- Stay focused on Jesus, who designed and perfected our faith. He endured the cross and ignored the shame *of that death* because He focused on the joy that was set before Him; and now He is seated beside God on the throne, *a place of honor*.
- We need the help of the Holy Spirit to grasp the Greater Reality of our lives and circumstances. Make this passage your prayer: Eph 1:16-17 Phillips-- This is my prayer. That God, the God of our Lord Jesus Christ and the all-glorious Father, will give you spiritual wisdom and the insight to know more of him: that you may receive that inner illumination of the spirit which will make you realize how great is the hope to which he is calling you—the magnificence and splendor of the inheritance promised to Christians—and how tremendous is the power available to us who believe in God.

Insights:

B. LISTEN INTENTLY

- Listening must be one of our primary intentions if we desire the higher perspective of the MOC.
- Jesus listened intently, acting only at the Father's initiative: Jn 12:49-50 NAS-- I did not speak on My own initiative, but the Father Himself who sent Me has given Me a commandment as to what

to say and what to speak. I know that His commandment is eternal life; therefore the things I speak, I speak just as the Father has told Me.”

- We must listen in order to make Jesus’ prayer our own--that God’s will be accomplished:
 - Lk 11:2-- “When you pray, say: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as *it is* in heaven.”
 - Jn 6:38-39 NLT-- For I have come down from heaven to do the will of God who sent me, not to do my own will. And this is the will of God, that I should not lose even one of all those he has given me, but that I should raise them up at the last day.
- 2 Biblical Examples of Listening: Luke 10:39 MSG-- A woman by the name of Martha welcomed him and made him feel quite at home. She had a sister, Mary, who sat before the Master, hanging on every word he said. But Martha was pulled away by all she had to do.
- It’s not wrong to serve others! But if our relationship with the Lord comes first, we make room for Him to act in unexpected ways: Mt 6:33 MSG-- What I’m trying to do here is to get you to relax, to not be so preoccupied with *getting*, so you can respond to God’s *giving*. People who don’t know God and the way he works fuss over these things, but you know both God and how he works. Steep your life in God-reality, God-initiative, God-provisions. Don’t worry about missing out. You’ll find all your everyday human concerns will be met.
- Engage with the Lord this week. Use these suggestions to help you listen intently:
 - Be still with the intention of listening and fellowshiping.
 - Ask Him to bless your eyes to see as He sees. (Mt 13:16)
 - Use worship songs to help you put the world aside and enter into His heavenly courts.
 - Visualize Jesus using these passages as a guide: Ezek 1:26-28, Dan 7:9-10, Rev 4:2-3
 - Ask the Lord if there is any topic He wants you to address. Is there something between you or anything you’ve held back from Him? Agree with Him now and be at peace.
 - Ask for the Holy Spirit to guide, to give wisdom and power in your situation. Realize in so doing, you are giving Him control ☺
 - Bring to mind what He has been telling you lately. Meditate on these truths in His presence, asking Him to give you personal insight into the truths He’s highlighted.
 - Record your interaction in your journal. Craft the truths and insights into a prayer. Pray it often as a means of communion with God and to RISE above your circumstances.
 - For additional guidance, use the handout “Tools & Techniques: Listening to God.”

Insights:

C. GREATER LOVE

- Since God has set His intention to love us this much, let us seek to match that intention:
 - Mk 12:30-- You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.
 - Mk 12:30 MSG-- Love the Lord God with all your passion and prayer and intelligence and energy.
- We must be rooted and grounded in love: Eph 3:17 NLT-- Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. Your roots will grow down into God’s love and keep you strong.
- Quote from *The Revenant*: “The wind cannot hurt trees with strong roots.”

- There is no stronger place to be rooted than in this kind of love! Jn 17:23 NLT-- I am in them and you are in me. May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me.
- God's love is beyond reason or comprehension. We can only receive it with our hearts. As we do, love for God will overflow: 1 Jn 4:19—We love Him because He first loved us.
- Storms are an opportunity to drift or to root ourselves in a place of deeper relationship and love: Jn 15:9-- As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love.
- No matter what the eventual outcome, choosing love and relationship in our circumstances will impact our experience positively:
 - Developing strength and trust as we wait: Ps 27:13-14 NAS-- *I would have despaired unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord; be strong and let your heart take courage; yes, wait for the Lord.*
 - Occupying higher ground with the Lord: Ps 91:14— Because he has set his love upon Me, therefore I will deliver him; I will set him on high, because he has known My name.
 - Getting to know God better in the process: Ps 25:14 TPT—There's a private place reserved for the lovers of God, where they sit near Him and receive the revelation-secrets of His promises.
 - Discovering how strong His love really is: Zech 8:2 NLT-- This is what the Lord of Heaven's Armies says: My love for Mount Zion is passionate and strong; I am consumed with passion for Jerusalem!
- When we chose to love God and live in His presence, we become like the Seraphim. They are always before the throne and their name means "the fiery ones."
- The Mind of Christ intentionally seeks a lifestyle of fellowship with and passion for God: "To live in His presence is to have our eyes wide open in astonishment and fascination, while at the same time being broken before Him in humility and wonder...Passion for God is a consequence of abiding not striving." (Chuck Jones)
- Phil 3:12-21 MSG-- I've got my eye on the goal, where God is beckoning us onward—to Jesus. I'm off and running, and I'm not turning back. So let's keep focused on that goal, those of us who want everything God has for us. If any of you have something else in mind, something less than total commitment, God will clear your blurred vision—you'll see it yet! Now that we're on the right track, let's stay on it...Keep track of those you see running this same course, headed for this same goal. There are many out there taking other paths, choosing other goals, and trying to get you to go along with them...All they want is easy street. They hate Christ's cross. But easy street is a dead-end street. Those who live there make their bellies their gods...all they can think of is their appetites. But there's far more to life for us. We're citizens of high heaven! We're waiting the arrival of the Savior, the Master, Jesus Christ, who will transform our earthy bodies into glorious bodies like his own. He'll make us beautiful and whole with the same powerful skill by which he is putting everything as it should be, under and around him.

Insights:

Continue to apply the principles from our previous teaching on the Mind of Christ:

- Set your intentions daily: cultivating the Mind of Christ, head to heart processing, commitment to God's will God's way, and to RISE above your circumstances.
- Pay attention so that you don't aimlessly drift due to immaturity, insecurity, or impurity.
- Cultivate heart knowledge by meditating on God's word vs. skimming the surface.