

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. NEW LIFE

- Is 11:1-3 NLT-- Out of the stump of David's family will grow a shoot—yes, a new Branch bearing fruit from the old root. And the Spirit of the Lord will rest on him—the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. He will delight in obeying the Lord. He will not judge by appearance nor make a decision based on hearsay. He will give justice to the poor and make fair decisions for the exploited. The earth will shake at the force of his word, and one breath from his mouth will destroy the wicked. He will wear righteousness like a belt and truth like an undergarment.
- Isaiah 10 leaves us with the idea of God chopping down the proud and religious like mighty trees being felled. The Messiah is the remaining Stump written of here.
- It had been 600 years since the house of David had ruled. Jesus' birth fulfilled this prophecy at His birth: Rev 5:5 NLT-- Look, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the heir to David's throne, has won the victory.
- Hebrew has several words for "branch.". The one used in this verse connotes the idea of life and fruitfulness. Christ's life would display fullness of the Spirit (v.2) and absolute integrity (vv. 3-5).
- Christ's holy life is given to us in 2 ways:
 - Imputed: A spirit of judgment and a spirit of burning characterize this cleansing from sin: Is 4:2,4— In that day the Branch of the Lord shall be beautiful and glorious; and the fruit of the earth *shall be* excellent and appealing...When the Lord has washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and purged the blood of Jerusalem from her midst, by the spirit of judgment and by the spirit of burning
 - Imparted: We receive new hearts and natures that are made manifest as we stay rooted in the Branch: John 15:3-4 NIV-- You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself
- Jesus lived a life of sinless perfection but that's not His expectation of us. The holiness He intends for His disciples is a life, heart, and mind dedicated to Him and not this world.
- Where the Branch reigns, His presence will bring cleansing, deliverance, and healing: Is 9:4-7 MSG-- The boots of all those invading troops, along with their shirts soaked with innocent blood, will be piled in a heap and burned, a fire that will burn for days! For a child has been born—for us! The gift of a son—for us! He'll take over the running of the world. His names will be: Amazing Counselor, Strong God, Eternal Father, Prince of Wholeness. His ruling authority will grow, and there'll be no limits to the wholeness he brings.
- David's stump seemed to be barely alive, but a new Branch sprang forth. That Branch brings vibrant, new life to people who were dead in their sins.
- The old nature has no capacity to be intimately connected to God or to make a lasting contribution. But eternal fruit will come forth from those who're a new creation: Jn 15:16 NIV-- You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you.
- Walking in unbroken communion with Jesus produces His light in us: 1 Jn 1:7 MSG-- If we claim that we experience a shared life with him and continue to stumble around in the dark, we're obviously lying through our teeth—we're not *living* what we claim. But if we walk in the light, God himself being the light, we also experience a shared life with one another, as the sacrificed blood of Jesus, God's Son, purges all our sin.

Insights:

B. NEW LIGHT

- We are now free to choose the thoughts of the Lord of Light or the Father of Lies!
 - Col 1:13 NIV-- For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves
 - Jesus' life on earth is our guide as we seek to walk in the light: Rev 22:16 NIV—"I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star."
- We are given the Mind of Christ so that we might "know" (*oida* - to see or to intimately experience) the things God has freely given to us: 1 Cor 2:12-16 NLT-- We have received God's Spirit (not the world's spirit), so we can know the wonderful things God has freely given us. When we tell you these things, we do not use words that come from human wisdom. Instead, we speak words given to us by the Spirit, using the Spirit's words to explain spiritual truths. But people who aren't spiritual can't receive these truths from God's Spirit. It all sounds foolish to them and they can't understand it, for only those who are spiritual can understand what the Spirit means. Those who are spiritual can evaluate all things, but they themselves cannot be evaluated by others. For, "Who can know the Lord's thoughts? Who knows enough to teach him?" But we understand these things, for we have the mind of Christ.
- Christ's thoughts are manifested in a variety of supernatural ways: Is 11:2 NLT— The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him—the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.
- Scholars compare the Mind of Christ to the 7-pronged lamp stand seen in Scripture (Is 11):
 - Spirit of the Lord is the Holy Spirit which we receive at the time of our salvation: Eph 1:13 NLT-- When you believed in Christ, he identified you as his own by giving you the Holy Spirit
 - Spirit of Wisdom: Jesus is not just full of wisdom, He IS wisdom: 1 Cor 1:30 NLT--God has united you with Christ Jesus. For our benefit God made him to be wisdom itself.
 - Spirit of Understanding, in Hebrew, is literally a sharp sense of smell. It is God personally turning the lights on for us regarding His Word (Strong's): Ps 119:104 NLT-- Your commandments give me understanding; no wonder I hate every false way of life.
 - Spirit of Counsel is God personally applying His thoughts to our circumstances:
 - Ps 32:8 NAS-- I will instruct you and teach you in the way which you should go; I will counsel you with My eye upon you.
 - Is 30:1—"Woe to the rebellious children," says the Lord, "Who take counsel, but not of Me, And who devise plans, but not of My Spirit"
 - Spirit of Might/Strength is, in Hebrew, "to overcome." The HS gives strength to overcome, to willingly choose God's will by overcoming our fleshly thoughts and feelings: Phil 2:13 AMP-- [Not in your own strength] for it is God Who is all the while effectually at work in you [energizing and creating in you the power and desire], both to will and to work for His good pleasure *and* satisfaction *and* delight.
 - Spirit of Knowledge means intimately knowing by experience (*yada*), the comingling of His life in mine as in marriage: Phil 3:10 AMP--[For my determined purpose is] that I may know Him [that I may progressively become more deeply and intimately acquainted with Him, perceiving and recognizing and understanding the wonders of His Person more strongly and more clearly], and that I may in that same way come to know the power outflowing from His resurrection [which it exerts over believers], and that I may so share His sufferings as to be continually transformed [in spirit into His likeness even] to His death
 - Fear of the Lord is the culmination of Christ's life in us displaying grace and truth, hating anything that would quench the Holy Spirit:
 - Is 33:6 NIV--He will be the sure foundation for your times, a rich store of salvation and wisdom and knowledge; the fear of the Lord is the key to this treasure.
 - "Fear of God does not mean fearfulness of God or being afraid of Him, but walking, speaking and acting in such an intimate relationship with Him that we are in continual

awe of what He is doing in our lives. And because of that, we are constantly watching for and fleeing anything that would hinder or quench that intimacy.” (koinoniainstitute.org)

- Note that the first four parts of the Mind of Christ (the Spirit of Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel and Strength) are supernatural downloads that we receive by simply being in Christ. We can access them any time our hearts are clean and available toward God.
- The last two, the Spirit of Knowledge and Fear of the Lord, are upgrades that come to us as we make faith choices to walk in obedience to God moment by moment.
- By faith, we put off our old nature and thoughts and God will put on the new for us:
 - Eph 4:22-24 NLT-- Throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception. Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes. Put on your new nature, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy.
 - Ps 68:20 TPT—Our God is a mighty God who saves us over and over! For the Lord, Yahweh rescues us from the ways of death many times.
- As we walk in the light with Jesus, we become more finely tuned to being out of sync with Him, quicker to recognize disconnection and deal with it. We learn to welcome God pointing out our wrong thinking and sin. His cleansing allows us to enjoy greater transparency and authenticity.
- Our old nature will still resist God’s Will God’s Way. How great that our old nature was crucified and we are no longer bound by it: Rom 6:11-13 NIV--Count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life
- With the Mind of Christ we are able to judge all the things that happen to us, not through our own eyes or mind, but by the light shed by His Spirit: Is 11:3 NLT-- He will delight in obeying the Lord. He will not judge by appearance nor make a decision based on hearsay.
- Having the Mind of Christ and walking in light can only happen when we partner with the HS and receive His power: Gal 5:25 AMP--If we [claim to] live by the [Holy] Spirit, we must also walk by the Spirit [with personal integrity, godly character, and moral courage—our conduct empowered by the Holy Spirit].

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, R.I.S.E. above your circumstances, and practice.
- Interact with God from the place of His intentionality toward you: Truth in the Inmost Being, Intimate Knowing, Love and Kindness, Trustworthiness
- 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.
- Meet God’s intention for intimacy with your time, vulnerability, and submission to the relationship.
- Remember that your identity is not based on your background or behavior. You are a Child of God. He has opened the door for you to become Friend of God and Bride of Christ.
- Regularly bask in the love of God. Soak in songs and truths that help you receive more of it.
- Infiltrate, Interrogate, and Incarcerate thoughts that are not consistent with the Mind of Christ!