

TRANSFORMED – 8

Theme verse: *“And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.” Romans 12:1-2 NKJV*

*“He also spoke this parable: ‘A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. Then he said to the keeper of his vineyard, ‘Look, for three years I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree and find none. Cut it down; why does it use up the ground?’ But he answered and said to him, ‘Sir, let it alone **this year** also, until **I dig around it** and **fertilize it**. And if it bears fruit, well. But if not, after that you can cut it down.’” Luke 13:6-9 NKJV*

(Review)

JESUS ASK FOR THREE THINGS

- 1) **GIVE ME A YEAR**
- 2) **LET ME DIG IT UP**
- 3) **LET ME FERTILIZE IT**

GOD’S WORD IS HIS FERTILIZER

GOD DOESN’T WANT US TO JUST READ THE BOOK HE WANTS US TO EAT THE BOOK.

“But Jesus answered him, saying, ‘It is written, “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.”” Luke 4:4 NKJV

EATING THE BOOK IS A METAPHOR FOR WHAT IS INVOLVED FOR EFFECTIVELY READING GOD’S WORD

*“One day an expert in religious law stood up to test Jesus by asking him this question: ‘Teacher, what should I do to inherit eternal life?’ **Jesus replied, ‘What does the law of Moses say? How do you read it?’** The man answered, ‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind.’ And, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ ‘Right!’ Jesus told him. ‘Do this and you will live!’ The man wanted to justify his actions, so he asked Jesus, ‘And who is my neighbor?’” Luke 10:25-29 NLT*

MEDITATION REQUIRES BEING RECEPTIVE

“My ears You have opened.” Psalms 40:6 NKJV

“Opened” is the Hebrew word “karah.” To dig,

MEDITATING ON GOD’S WORD REQUIRES USING OUR IMAGINATION

“Moreover the word of the Lord came to me, saying, ‘Jeremiah, what do you see?’ And I said, ‘I see a branch of an almond tree.’ Then the Lord said to me, ‘You have seen well, for I am ready to perform My word.”

Jeremiah 1:11-12 NKJV

- **GOD WANTS TO BE THE AUTHOR OF OUR STORY**

“Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith...” Hebrews 12:1-2 NKJV

- FOR GOD TO WRITE OUR STORY WE MUST FOLLOW HIM

"Then He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." They immediately left their nets and followed Him." Matthew 4:19-20 NKJV

HOW DO WE FOLLOW JESUS?

JUST LIKE YOU READ A SENTENCE **ONE WORD AT A TIME.**

"Did not our heart burn within us while He talked with us on the road, and while He opened the Scriptures to us?" Luke 24:13-33 NKJV

- FOLLOWING INVOLVES **STOPPING ALONG** THE WAY

"I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day, and I heard behind me a loud voice, as of a trumpet, saying, 'I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last,'.... Then I turned to see the voice that spoke with me..." Revelation 1:10-12NKJV

"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you." John 14:26 NKJV

"However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you." John 16:13-14 NKJV