

## **TRANSFORMED – 9**

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**

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

*“So I went to the angel and asked him to give me the little scroll. He said to me, ‘Take it and eat it. It will turn your stomach sour, but in your mouth it will be as sweet as honey.’ I took the little scroll from the angel’s hand and ate it. It tasted as sweet as honey in my mouth, but when I had eaten it, my stomach turned sour.”*  
Revelation 10:9-10 NIV

### **MEDITATION INVOLVES**

- 1) BEING RECEPTIVE**
- 2) USING YOUR IMAGINATION**
- 3) PARTICIPATION**

### **KNOWLEDGE OF GOD’S WORD WITHOUT PARTICIPATION CAN LEAD TO PROBLEMS**

*“For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.”* 2 Corinthians 3:6 ESV

### **HOW DO YOU READ IT ?**

*“He said to him, ‘What is written in the Law? How do you read it?’”* Luke 10:26 ESV

- 1) Some people read with their understanding closed**  
*“Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures.”* Luke 24:44-45 NLT
- 2) Some people read the word to domesticate it**
- 3) Some people read the word to justify or control**

*“Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,’”* Matthew 4:5-6 ESV

- 4) *God wants us to hear his word let it come alive and participate with it***

*“‘Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise.’ **And they remembered his words,**”* Luke 24:5-8 ESV

## WHEN WE EAT THE BOOK WE HAVE TWO EXPERIENCES

- WE ACQUIRE A TASTE FOR THE SWEET STUFF

*"How sweet are Your words to my taste, Sweeter than honey to my mouth!"* Psalms 119:103 NKJV

- SOME OF WHAT WE EAT WILL BE HARD TO DIGEST

*"When many of his disciples heard it, they said, 'This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?' But Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples were grumbling about this, said to them, 'Do you take offense at this?'"*  
John 6:60-61 ESV

*"So Jesus said to the twelve, 'Do you want to go away as well?' Simon Peter answered him, 'Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life,'"* John 6:67-68 ESV

*"It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life."* John 6:63 ESV

## WHAT IS GOD ASKING YOU TO DO?

*"When He had stopped speaking, He said to Simon, 'Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch.' But Simon answered and said to Him, 'Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless at Your word I will let down the net.' And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking."* Luke 5:4-6 NKJV

*"As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead."* James 2:26 NIV