



AWCI SERMON *Notes & Announcements*

DATE: July 13th at 11:00 am

SPEAKER: Rev. Ameache Epps

SERMON TITLE: Conform or Transform - Winning the Battle in Your Minds

Visit www.agapeworship.org/resources to access a digital copy or scan the QR Code.

KEY PASSAGE

*"Do not conform any longer to the world, but be transform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. **Then** you will be able to test and approve what God's will is - his good, pleasing and perfect will".*

Romans 12:2 (NIV)

INTRODUCTION

The Last Samurai, a 2003 Paramount film starring Tom Cruise, tells a 19th-century story of Japan that weaves in an American war story. While most of the movie was fictionalized, some elements were historically authentic.

From one point of view, we see Japan's leadership fighting to eliminate the ways of the samurai, who upheld the customs and served the emperor. Now, those ways are challenged and deemed outdated in modern society, which threatens the future of global control over other nations, leading to a dubious alliance with a power-hungry America.

In comes American war hero Nathan Algren, who will help Japan defeat the Samurai rebellion, only to discover the battle that rages in his mind from his traumatic past, his current state, and who he is becoming.

It is a daily battle for us, but Paul shares in these scriptures how we win.

SERMON SCENES

SCENE I: From the world you once knew.

Romans 12:1 & 2 Cor. 10:3 (NIV)

Like Nathan discovering that he is finding it difficult to escape the horror of his past, of viewing who he was and what he thought he knew about himself, we too are about to experience something we had never seen coming. He becomes a captive of his enemy and is forced to understand what is happening around him. A new custom, language, and way of life.

We are now believers, so we must take on the complete character of Christ and grow in the knowledge of who he is, and learn how to live by his power.

SCENE II: WIN BY RENEWING YOUR MIND DAILY

You win by renewing your mind (remembering) and by deepening your understanding daily. Every day, you grow stronger and gain wisdom. More and more, you grow in grace and become who God's word says you are.

SCENE III. THEN...YOU TEST AND APPROVE ALL THAT YOU HAVE LEARNED.

You learn because you have put the word into practice. You apply the word in an area and see the results and manifestations. Once you learn what the word says, you test, prove, confirm, and affirm. Repeat it every day and place it in every situation, and watch your faith grow and grow in God's grace in other areas. You will see the true living God in your vocations, relationships, and finances.

2 Cor. 10:5

SCENE IV. Meet and Rediscover an IF You—THEN HE Attributes of God.

Psalm 91

If you make the Most High your dwelling, then He...

Our Captive chooses to learn the heart of the Samurai way of life. He understands more deeply how these people live, their language, and their disciplines and commitment to their craft or the sword. What is truly behind the rebellion is honor and service.

If we embrace the Christian lifestyle, the core of who Christ is and what He has done for us, we too begin to change from the inside out, the transformation from a caterpillar to a butterfly. Learning to fly with His wings and not our own. Living for Christ is now as easy as breathing.

The Conclusion

The battle of our minds and the battle for our minds is constant. Our minds signal everything to the rest of our bodies. Therefore, you must learn to wage war in this place first. The strongholds of our minds will keep each of us captive if we choose to be passive. God has given us the power to demolish them all and something to replace them with; we can receive new neurons or new thoughts of healing and restoration.

There are new mercies and grace to face new challenges to meet the obstacles of tomorrow.

Say hello to the new you in Christ.

The Daily Invitation

BEYOND SUNDAY

The Finale

1. *Set aside daily time with God (if you're new, start with 5 minutes). Read one scripture.*
2. *Declare or repeat the word of God over one area.*
3. *Journal your thoughts or what God has spoken to you.*
4. *Listen to praise and worship music at the start of your day.*
5. *Whenever you wake, refuse to pick up your phone or remote first. Establish gratitude.*

NOTES

WEEKLY PRAYER EMPHASIS

Evangelism and Outreach – Fulfilling the Great Commission

Father, we lift up the evangelistic mission of Agape Worship Center International. You have called us to “Go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19-20). We pray for fresh passion and boldness in sharing the Gospel. Let our hearts burn with compassion for the lost and the broken. We declare that AWCi will be known as a soul-winning ministry where lives are transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Restoration, Healing, and Unity in Marriages

Lord, we pray for healing, restoration, and unity in every marriage connected to Agape Worship Center International. Your Word declares, “Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain” (Psalm 127:1). We declare that every home is built on the solid rock of Jesus Christ. We decree that AWCi families are strong, united, and thriving in Your presence. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Covering for Children and Youth – Walking in Purpose and Protection

Heavenly Father, we lift up every child and youth within Agape Worship Center International. Your Word declares, “Children are a heritage from the Lord, offspring a reward from Him” (Psalm 127:3). We decree divine protection over them, especially during the summer months.

Financial Freedom and Debt Cancellation – Hope for the Future Campaign

God, You are Jehovah Jireh, our Provider. We declare that the Hope for the Future Campaign will be fully funded, and the \$225,000 goal will be exceeded. We speak financial freedom and debt cancellation over this house. Open the windows of heaven and pour out a blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it. We declare supernatural provision, favor, and financial breakthrough. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Revival, Repentance, Healing, and Deliverance – An Outpouring of the Holy Spirit

Father, we cry out for revival! Your Word declares, “I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh” (Joel 2:28). We pray for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon Agape Worship Center International. Let repentance, healing, and deliverance flow in every service. We decree that strongholds are broken, chains are loosed, and captives are set free.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please note: There are multiple ways to sign up for an event. You can scan the QR code, visit our website, or sign the signup sheet in the foyer under the event registration section.

July 6th-Aug 3rd On Sundays in July, join us for “**Agape on the Big Screen**” as ministers and guests share God’s Word through movies that inspired them—don’t miss this unique experience!

July 16th at 7:00 pm— Mark your calendars: In-person **Hour of Power returns**. Casual attire is encouraged throughout July. Come celebrate and praise God with us!

July 27th—9 AM & 11 AM Service—Family & Friends Connect. There will be activities immediately after both services. This is an event the whole family can enjoy.

August 1st: 6 pm-8:30 pm Save the Date: Back-to-School Bash

Sept. 27- Our next water baptism celebration—scan the QR code and sign up throughout August to take this powerful step of faith! If you’d like to be baptized sooner or in August, just let us know and we’ll gladly work with you.

Sept. 27th—Save the Date—Annual Church Picnic



SPIRITUAL GROWTH & FELLOWSHIP ACTIVITIES

Sunday School

- Every Sunday at 10:10 am-10:55 am.
- Scan QR Code to Sign Up & receive a digital copy of the Sunday School Book.



THE FOLLOWING WILL RESUME IN AUGUST

Breakfast For Champions: Weekday Devotion & Prayer

- Monday-Friday at 7 am
- Call In: 717-908-1690 Access Code: 577625

Intercessory Prayer

- Every 1st, 2nd, and 4th Monday at 6:30pm-7:30pm

Virtual Midday Bible Study

- Every Thursday at noon
- Call In: (470)869-2200 (US East)
- Meeting ID: 393-678-9202
- Virtual:meetings.ringcentral.com/j/3936789202

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