

Study Guide

Study Scripture: 2 Corinthians 5.17 (NKJV)

Walking in Daily Recovery with Christ

Stage 2 – Christlike

Messenger: Pastor Keith

Date: April 26, 2026



Review: Stage I - Conversion

Focus: Reconciliation with God

Step 1 - Recognize you are a sinner. (John 16.13) The Holy Spirit shows you that you're separated from God because you are a sinner, who practices sin. Sin diverts us from God's holiness and purpose, destroys our life, and proves we can't overcome it on our own, we need help. 1 Peter 1.16

Step 2 - Repent of your sin. (2 Corinthians 7.10) You're convicted of sin and experience *godly sorrow* for *offending* God; you turn away from sin and self-rule by placing your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, resulting in a *transformed* life through a *restored* relationship with Him.

Step 3 - Rely on Christ by faith. (Acts 20.21) Your new life in Christ is **not self-effort** but **relying** on Christ to live His life through you by faith. Galatians 2.20

Stage I – Conversion: Your new life in Christ and your recovery from sin begins with **recognizing** you are a sinner and helpless. You **repent** of your sin and **rely** on Christ by faith to live His life through you.

Stage II – Christlike: ‘...he is a **new creation**’

Focus: Inner Transformation

NOW WORD: Our recovery in Christ from sin is a **transformation**, not a **rehabilitation**.’ Reference: Ephesians 4.22-24

Step 1 – _____: v22. You were taught with regard to your **former way of life**, to put off your **old self**, which is being **corrupted by its deceitful desires...**

- your former way of life – believing
- put off the old self – behaving
- corrupted by its deceitful desires – belonging

Application: Name a sinful habit, a wrong thought, and a desire that needs to be controlled by Christ:

Step 2 – _____: v23. to be **made new** in the **attitude** of your **minds**; Romans 12.2(NLT)

- a) **Mental** fasting: detoxing your mind by abstaining from self-directed thinking and believing in what is true that led to sinful behavior and controlled you before Christ.
- b) **Mental** Control: ‘bringing every thought into obedience of Christ.’
2 Corinthians 10.5
- c) **Mental plasticity**: changing the way you think through meditation on God’s Word. Romans 12.2
 - **Don’t copy** the behavior and customs of this world
 - Let God **transform** you into a new person
 - By changing the **way you think**

Application: Joshua 1.8 –

Ingest – This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth..... read it... speak it repeat it.

Digest – ‘meditate on it day and night.’ You’re continually taking it in, turning the words over until it settles into your subconscious mind. Deep reflection leads to aligned action.

Ingest – ‘so that you may be **careful to do** according to all that is written in it...’ It moves from mind into action. You’re taking it in at a deeper level, living it out. Letting the same truth work on you over time until it shapes how you think and act.

Step 3 – _____: v24. and to **put on the new self**, created to **be like God** in true **righteousness** and **holiness**.

Colossians 3.10. ‘and have put on the **new self**, which is being **renewed** in **knowledge** after the **image** of its Creator.’

New self is renewed in **knowledge** in the **image** of its Creator that shapes your moral character and intellectual thoughts to be like God.

- a) Rely on Christ by daily surrender
- b) Maintain mental control over conditions
- c) Mature new thoughts by speaking confessions

Next Week: Stage III – Community: ‘... old things have passed away; behold all thing have become new.

Reflection

1. What thought or reaction do I need to stop right now?
2. What is true here, and what reflects Jesus Christ?
3. What will I do differently in this moment?