

Study Guide

Study Scripture: 2 Corinthians 5.17 (NKJV)

Walking in Daily Recovery with Christ

Stage II – Christlike – Part 2

Messenger: Pastor Keith

Date: May 3, 2026



Review: Stage I – CONVERSION: ‘... if anyone is in Christ Jesus...’

Focus: Reconciliation with God

Three steps:

1. Recognizing sin – Holy Spirit convicts you of sin(s)
2. Repenting from sin – Confess your sin (godly sorrowful)
3. Relying on Christ – No longer I live but Christ lives in me

Prayer: Psalms 139.23-24. Search me, O God, and know my heart...see if there is any offensive way in me and lead me in the way of everlasting life. (NIV)

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

Focus: Transformation in the heart

What it looks like: Transformation

- Old thinking becomes godly thinking
- Fleshly desires become spiritual desires
- Self-rule becomes surrender to God
- Sinful desires are replaced with righteous living

Step I – _____ 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 – manner of living
- put off the *old self* – pattern of thinking
- corrupted by its *deceitful* desires - feels right but is wrong

Step II – _____ v23. to be **made new** in the **attitude** of your **minds**;

- a) **Mental fasting:** detoxing your mind from unhealthy and sinful patterns of thinking, starving old thoughts -- so your mind can align with God’s truth and godly thinking. Romans 12.2
- b) **Mental control:** every thought in your mind does not deserve your attention. 2 Corinthians 10.4-5 – Seven Points of Warfare:
 - 1) Weapons of our warfare are not carnal (in human strength)
 - 2) but mighty in God ((beyond natural ability)

- 3) Pulling down strongholds = entrenched patterns, habits, or ways of thinking that become automatic and feels true, even when it's not
 - 4) Casting down arguments = reject internal false reasoning, excuses, lies, thoughts that oppose God.
 - 5) Every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God = pride, arrogance, egotism, anything that is not God's truth, nature, and will.
 - 6) Bringing every thought into captivity (actively taking control)
 - 7) to the obedience of Christ = in alignment with godly thinking
- c) **Mental plasticity:** creating new thought patterns in your mind

Joshua 1.8: Meditation on the Word

- **Inform** – v8a. 'This Book of the Law...' You *ingesting* God's word into your mind.
- **Transform** – v8b. 'shall not depart from your **mouth**, but you shall **meditate** in it **day** and **night**.' You're not only ingesting the word you are digesting, taking it in, turning the words over until it settles into your subconscious mind.
- **Perform** – v8c. 'so that you may be **careful to do** according to all that is written in it...' Rewiring your mind takes putting the word into action. You're taking it in at a deeper level, living it out.

Step III – _____ - v24. and to **put on the new self**, created to **be like God** in true **righteousness** and **holiness**. Colossians 3.10

New self is renewed in **knowledge** in the **image** of its Creator; a transformed mind, that shapes your moral character and thoughts to be like Christ.

I Corinthians 2.16. 'But we have the **mind** (image) of Christ.'

- a) Replace old thoughts with new thoughts (image)
- b) Maintain mental control over your thoughts
- c) Mature new thoughts by declaring daily the word

Reflection

1. What thoughts, influences, or patterns in your life need to be renewed so your mind aligns more with God's truth?
2. Do you consistently meditate on God's Word day and night or is it something you only engage with at church?
1. Do you periodically pray Psalms 139.23-24? Search me O God; know my heart, test me, and know my anxieties; point anything in me that offends you, and lead me in the path of everlasting life. (NLT)