

# Becoming Whole in Christ

*Now may the God of peace  
himself sanctify you completely,  
and may your whole spirit and  
soul and body be kept blameless  
at the coming of our Lord Jesus  
Christ. 1 Thessalonians 5:23*



# The HEALING of the MIND:

“Renewing our Thoughts  
and Thinking”



# *TWO DISTINCT MINDSETS*

THE MIND OF THE FLESH

THE MIND OF THE SPIRIT



# ROMANS 8:5-8

*“THOSE WHO ARE DOMINATED BY THE SINFUL NATURE THINK ABOUT SINFUL THINGS, BUT THOSE WHO ARE CONTROLLED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT THINK ABOUT THINGS THAT PLEASE THE SPIRIT. SO LETTING YOUR SINFUL NATURE CONTROL YOUR MIND LEADS TO DEATH. BUT LETTING THE SPIRIT CONTROL YOUR MIND LEADS TO LIFE AND PEACE. FOR THE SINFUL NATURE IS ALWAYS HOSTILE TO GOD. IT NEVER DID OBEY GOD’S LAWS, AND IT NEVER WILL. THAT’S WHY THOSE WHO ARE STILL UNDER THE CONTROL OF THEIR SINFUL NATURE CAN NEVER PLEASE GOD.”*

# ROMANS 7: 21-25

*“I HAVE DISCOVERED THIS PRINCIPLE OF LIFE—THAT WHEN I WANT TO DO WHAT IS RIGHT, I INEVITABLY DO WHAT IS WRONG. I LOVE GOD’S LAW WITH ALL MY HEART. BUT THERE IS ANOTHER POWER WITHIN ME THAT IS AT WAR WITH MY MIND. THIS POWER MAKES ME A SLAVE TO THE SIN THAT IS STILL WITHIN ME. OH, WHAT A MISERABLE PERSON I AM! WHO WILL FREE ME FROM THIS LIFE THAT IS DOMINATED BY SIN AND DEATH? THANK GOD! THE ANSWER IS IN JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD. SO, YOU SEE HOW IT IS: IN MY MIND I REALLY WANT TO OBEY GOD’S LAW, BUT BECAUSE OF MY SINFUL NATURE I AM A SLAVE TO SIN.*

# ELEMENTS OF THE “BLESSING”

- MEANINGFUL TOUCH
- SPOKEN WORD
- EXPRESSING HIGH VALUE
- PICTURING A SPECIAL FUTURE
- AN ACTIVE COMMITMENT

# ROMANS 12: 1-2

*“AND SO, DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS, I PLEAD WITH YOU TO GIVE YOUR BODIES TO GOD BECAUSE OF ALL HE HAS DONE FOR YOU. LET THEM BE A LIVING AND HOLY SACRIFICE—THE KIND HE WILL FIND ACCEPTABLE. THIS IS TRULY THE WAY TO WORSHIP HIM. DON’T COPY THE BEHAVIOR AND CUSTOMS OF THIS WORLD, BUT LET GOD TRANSFORM YOU INTO A NEW PERSON BY CHANGING THE WAY YOU THINK. THEN YOU WILL LEARN TO KNOW GOD’S WILL FOR YOU, WHICH IS GOOD AND PLEASING AND PERFECT.”*

(NLT)

## II CORINTHIANS 10: 3-6

*“WE ARE HUMAN, BUT WE DON’T WAGE WAR AS HUMANS DO. WE USE GOD’S MIGHTY WEAPONS, NOT WORLDLY WEAPONS, TO KNOCK DOWN THE STRONGHOLDS OF HUMAN REASONING AND TO DESTROY FALSE ARGUMENTS. WE DESTROY EVERY PROUD OBSTACLE THAT KEEPS PEOPLE FROM KNOWING GOD. WE CAPTURE THEIR REBELLIOUS THOUGHTS AND TEACH THEM TO OBEY CHRIST. AND AFTER YOU HAVE BECOME FULLY OBEDIENT, WE WILL PUNISH EVERYONE WHO REMAINS DISOBEDIENT.”*



# THE CONCLUSION

- SURRENDERING FULLY TO THE LORD
- RADICALLY EXAMINE THE INFLUENCE OF THE WORLD
- TRUST IN HIS PROMISES
- DON'T BE AFRAID TO ASK FOR HELP

## Philippians 4: 4-8

*“Celebrate God all day, every day. I mean, revel in him! Make it as clear as you can to all you meet that you’re on their side, working with them and not against them. Help them see that the Master is about to arrive. He could show up any minute! center of your life. Don’t fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God’s wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It’s wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the*

*Summing it all up, friends, I’d say you’ll do best by filling your minds and meditating on things true, noble, reputable, authentic, compelling, gracious—the best, not the worst; the beautiful, not the ugly; things to praise, not things to curse. Put into practice what you learned from me, what you heard and saw and realized. Do that, and God, who makes everything work together, will work you into his most excellent harmonies. (The Message)*