LIVING on the EDGE
Dare to experience True Spirituality
GETTING GOD’S BEST FOR YOUR LIFE

ROMANS 12:2
Introduction

“God wants you to experience his good and pleasing will in your marriage, your job and your future.”
Chip Ingram
Jesus said, “I came that you may have life, and have it to the full.”
John 10:10

Sadly, many Christians are not experiencing the abundant life that Jesus came to offer.
It may be because of

- Sin and disobedience – they don’t want to.
- Spiritual ignorance – they don’t know how.
I. DEDICATION - *Offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God.*”
Verse 1 stresses the decisive commitment. Verse 2 stresses the ongoing commitment. There are two processes that need to be continually at work in us.
A. Refuse – “Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world.”

It is easy for us to pick up on the world’s values because we hear them all the time.
Secularism is a philosophy that doesn’t look beyond this world, but operates as if this age is all there is.

“The cosmos is all that is or ever was or ever will be.” Carl Sagan

What does God say?
“Since then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.” Colossians 3:1
“So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, what is unseen is eternal.” II Corinthians 4:18
Humanism is a philosophy that places man at the center of the universe. It says you can be your own god – just look within.

What does God say?
“I am the Lord your God. You shall have no other gods before me.”
Exodus 20:2.3
Relativism is a philosophy that says truth is relative. There are no absolutes.

What does Jesus say?
“Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.”
Matthew 24:35
“Sanctify them by your truth.
Your word is truth.”  John 17:17
Materialism is a philosophy that says success in life is measured by material things.

What does Jesus say?
“Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.”
Luke 12:15
Hedonism is a philosophy that makes personal pleasure the highest aim in life. “Eat drink and be merry for tomorrow you die.”

What does God say?
“Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For everything in the world – the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes, and the boasting of what he has and does – comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever.”

I John 2:15-17
B. Renew – “Be transformed by the renewing of your mind.”

The renewing of our mind doesn’t happen automatically.
We need to be in God’s Word consistently – hearing, reading, studying, meditating, memorizing and applying it to our life.

What are you putting into your mind?

Is it helping or hurting your spiritual growth?
II. DISCERNMENT – “Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is.”
Do you want to know God’s will for your life?

Then get into the Scriptures and train yourself to hear what God says.
“Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.”
Hebrews 5:13-14
Trained themselves – this is a skill that you can learn.

God’s Word contains both precepts and principles.
Dedication (our commitment to Christ) leads to

Discernment (wisdom in all things) which leads to Delight.
III. DELIGHT- “His good, pleasing and perfect will.”
It doesn’t say his will is easy or comfortable or safe.

But we can look back on it and say God is good.
Like the Psalmist, we can say,
“Oh how I love your law!
I meditate on it all day long.”
Psalm 119:97
“This is love for God: to obey his commands. And his commands are not burdensome.”  I John 5:3
Conclusion

What are you putting into your mind?
Refuse to follow the pattern of this world.
Renew your mind daily in the Word of God.