



SERMON PREP SERIES · TEXTUAL OUTLINE

A Transformed Life

The believer experiences God's will by refusing to conform to the world, allowing God to transform the mind, and proving His will through a changed life.

Text	Type	Points
Romans 12:2	Textual	3

INTRODUCTION

Not Just What We Believe, But How We Live

Paul is challenging believers to live differently from the world around them. Romans 12:2 gives us three commands and consequences that describe a transformed Christian life — a textual outline that simply follows the verse's own three movements.

I. Refuse To Conform

*"Do not conform to the pattern of this world"***A. Conformity means allowing the world to shape us.**

- To conform is to take the shape of something around us — the world continually influences our values, attitudes, and behavior.

B. Christians are called to live differently.

- Following Christ means God's Word, not the world, becomes the standard by which we measure our lives.

C. Conformity can happen gradually.

- We may not realize how much outside influence is shaping us — small compromises eventually shape our character.

WATCH FOR

Conformity rarely arrives all at once. It's usually a hundred small compromises, not one big one.

- Paul tells us not only what we must refuse, but also what must take its place. We are not simply called to stop being shaped by the world; we are called to be transformed by God.

II. Allow God To Transform You

*"Be transformed by the renewing of your mind"***A. Transformation begins in the mind.**

- Our thoughts influence our attitudes and actions — God changes our lives by changing the way we think.

B. Transformation is the work of God.

- The command is to "be transformed" — Christian growth is not simply trying harder; it's God's work in us.

RENEWING THE MIND

Not just trying harder — letting God's Word reshape how you actually think, until attitudes and actions change on their own.

C. Transformation requires the renewing of our minds.

- As our minds are renewed, we increasingly see life from God's perspective.

- When we refuse the world's pattern and allow God to renew our minds, something begins to happen in the way we live. Paul now shows us the result of that transformation.

III. Discover God's Will

"Then you will be able to test and approve"

A. Transformation helps us recognize God's will.

- A renewed mind becomes increasingly sensitive to what pleases God, and learns to distinguish His ways from the world's.

B. God's will is "good."

- His purposes are beneficial and consistent with His character — we can trust His wisdom.

C. God's will is "pleasing."

- The transformed believer desires to live in a way that honors God.

D. God's will is "perfect."

- His plan is complete and lacking nothing — we can trust God rather than our own understanding.

PREACHING TIP

Consider pausing on each of the three words — good, pleasing, perfect — individually when you preach this point.

CONCLUSION

True Transformation Begins Within

Romans 12:2 gives us a simple picture of a transformed life. The Christian life is not about looking different on the outside — true transformation begins within, with the renewal of our minds, and ultimately affects the way we live.

- 1 Refuse** — the world's pattern.
- 2 Allow** — God to renew your mind.
- 3 Discover** — and follow God's will.

CLOSING CHALLENGE

What is shaping your thinking today — the pattern of the world or the truth of God's Word?