

Death to Selfie – 4

We live in a time of instant success, fame and popularity.
Or so it seems. Our culture is all about the power of self.
We want it our way and we want it now!

Mark 8:34–36 (NLT)

³⁴ Then, calling the crowd to join his disciples, he said, “If any of you wants to be my follower, you must turn from your selfish ways, take up your cross, and follow me. ³⁵ If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake and for the sake of the Good News, you will save it. ³⁶ And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul?*

- To serve Jesus and reach our fullest potential we must die to “Selfie”
- My Will – My Comfort – My identity
- When we die to self we find our identity in Him

Philippians 2:5, 8-11 (NLT)

⁵ You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had.

⁸ he humbled himself in obedience to God
and died a criminal’s death on a cross.

⁹ Therefore, God elevated him to the place of highest honor and gave him the name above all other names,

¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹ and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Hebrews 12:11 (NLT)

¹¹ No discipline is enjoyable while it is happening—it's painful! But afterward there will be a peaceful harvest of right living for those who are trained in this way.

Faith is no faith at all without an obstacle or trial

James 1:3–4 (NLT)

³ For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. ⁴ So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.

- Enduring temptation releases the power of Faith and Patience

In dying to *Selfie* we can obtain the freedom over sin and addiction that Christ has purchased for us

When *Selfie* is alive and well we can deceive ourselves into believing that everything is OK

That's cheep grace

“What’s the difference between a lie and an excuse? – Not all that much. An excuse is a skin of a reason stuffed with a lie. An excuse is a lie all dressed up for dinner.”

– Greg Laurie

I love the first few weeks of American Idol

It is proof of how easily we deceive ourselves

The mothers of the contestants are convinced that the

judges are unfair and just can't see the talent their baby has

But if we listen we can hear the truth

- I don't have a problem with...
- It's really no big deal
- This is one way I cope with everything
- I'm not as bad as most people
- I can quit anytime I want to
- This is just the way I am

“Those who are most defensive are often the most unknowingly guilty. It's been said that the more convinced you are that you're right, the more likely you are wrong. If you fight back against those trying to help you, chances are you are fighting to keep your own lies intact.”

– Craig Groeschel – Soul Detox

Jeremiah 17:9 (NKJV)

- ⁹ “The heart *is* deceitful above all *things*,
And desperately wicked; Who can know it?
- It's really about facing the truth and then applying God's discipline – His word and His Spirit
 - Only the word of God can shed light by the Holy Spirit and cleanse us
 - It's really about laying down our identity and taking up our new identity in Him
 - Renewing our heart and mind
 - Changing the way we think

ALL IT TAKES IS A CHANGED MIND!

Living Sacrifices to God

Romans 12:1–2 (NKJV)

12 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is* your reasonable service. ² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

- It's about a Changed Mind
- Many people can go for prayer in the prayer line
- They can read their Bibles
- They can get all emotional
- Yet see no change
- The mind needs to change first
 - The way I see my life in light of the call of Christ

1 Corinthians 10:13 (NKJV)

¹³ No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but **God is faithful**, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation **will also make the way of escape**, that you may be able to bear *it*.

- The temptations we face are things we can escape
- If you want to get to the next level allow God to set you free from this bondage
- We need to stop thinking the same thoughts we've always thought
- We need to rise above the life we've grown accustomed to

ALL IT TAKES IS A CHANGED MIND!

Colossians 3:1–2 (NKJV)

3 If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. ² **Set your mind** on things above, not on things on the earth.

- Remember your identity
- Focus on your position in Christ
- It all starts here
- Renew your thought life
- Focus on the things above – Kingdom Thoughts
- We must raise new internal standards

ALL IT TAKES IS A CHANGED MIND!

Colossians 3:3–7 (NKJV)

³ For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

⁴ When Christ *who is* our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

⁵ Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: **fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.** ⁶ Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, ⁷ in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them.

- Recognize your old life is dead
- Lust of the flesh, eyes and pride of life
- Change will not happen if we maintain our old patterns

ALL IT TAKES IS A CHANGED MIND!

Colossians 3:8–11 (NKJV)

⁸ But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. ⁹ Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, ¹⁰ and have put on the new *man* who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him, ¹¹ where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave *nor* free, but Christ *is* all and in all.

- Release past habits
- Put off the old
- Its like taking off a worn out set of clothes

ALL IT TAKES IS A CHANGED MIND!

Colossians 3:12–14 (NKJV)

¹² Therefore, as *the* elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; ¹³ bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also *must do*. ¹⁴ But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection.

- Replace the old clothes with new ones
- We get rid of old habits when we replace them with new ones
- When I'm full in Christ the old is pushed out

ALL IT TAKES IS A CHANGED MIND!

Loving God under Trials

James 1:12–15 (NKJV)

¹² Blessed *is* the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him. ¹³ Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am tempted by God”; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. ¹⁴ But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. ¹⁵ Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.

- Crown of life – the place of honor – a Blessed Life
- It’s all about new desires
- Taste and see – Psalm 34:8

It’s about boldness and authority

1 Thessalonians 4:1–3 (NKJV)

⁴ Finally then, brethren, we urge and exhort in the Lord Jesus that you should abound more and more, just as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God; ² for you know what commandments we gave you through the Lord Jesus. ³ For this is the will of God, your sanctification:

- We are set apart for God
- He has delivered us from bondage
- We now trust Him to defeat our enemies
- It takes courage, boldness and faith!

God delivered the Jewish people out of bondage but most of them didn't change their thinking

They continued to look at their life the way they always had

The Bible says their bodies' were scattered in the wilderness and that God was not pleased with them

See **1 Corinthians 10**

Joshua brought them into the Promised Land

Joshua 6:2–5 (NKJV)

² And the LORD said to Joshua: "See! I have given Jericho into your hand, its king, *and* the mighty men of valor. ³ You shall march around the city, all *you* men of war; you shall go all around the city once. This you shall do six days.

⁴ And seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark. But the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets. ⁵ It shall come to pass, when they make a long *blast* with the ram's horn, *and* when you hear the sound of the trumpet, that all the people shall shout with a great shout; then the wall of the city will fall down flat. And the people shall go up every man straight before him."

- Joshua was a man of war
- He had witnessed many victories in the wilderness
- He enjoyed Gods provision and protection
- He had learned how to die to *Selfie*
- He laid down his identity – his gifts
- Marched obediently by faith

Romans 12:3 (NKJV)

³ For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think *of himself* more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.

- Death to *Selfie* is about a surrendered life
- Surrendered to God
- Submitted to others
- Committed to the Body of Christ
- Available for God to change me and use me for His glory!

James 1:21–25 (NLT)

²¹ So get rid of all the filth and evil in your lives, and humbly accept the word God has planted in your hearts, for it has the power to save your souls.

²² But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves. ²³ For if you listen to the word and don't obey, it is like glancing at your face in a mirror. ²⁴ You see yourself, walk away, and forget what you look like. ²⁵ But if you look carefully into the perfect law that sets you free, and if you do what it says and don't forget what you heard, then God will bless you for doing it.

- Stop lying to yourself, swallowing the poisonous self-deceptions that keep you from experiencing healthy spiritual growth
- Admit the truth – Come clean – die to *Selfie*
- The truth will set you free!