



**SHEROES & CHAMPIONS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT - 2004**  
**THE RENEWED MIND**

**The Book Of Romans - Women's Discipleship Group**  
**Terri McFaddin Series #3 Lesson #5**

**Scripture Focus:** *“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. (Romans 12:2)”*

**Key Word:** Conform (Greek – suschematizo) To agree or accommodate oneself to a model or pattern. To live by the standard of the present world system.

**OPENING STATEMENT:**

Here's a riddle for you to solve. Based on Romans 12:2, what is the “gap” between you and the will of God? Can't figure it out – read the following.

The term “gap” stands for the *good* – and *acceptable* – and *perfect*, will of God. In order to fully understand how to close the “gap” between you and the will of God, you must first be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

**Colossians 3:10 reads:** *...and have put on the new man who is **renewed** in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him...* This scripture points to the fact that spiritual renewal, or transformation, comes from the knowledge of God, who created us. The knowledge of God can only be found in the Word of God.

**Titus 3:5 reads:** *...not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and **renewing** of the Holy Spirit.* With the help of the Holy Spirit the Word of God renews our minds and unfolds the revelations of God's Word. The Holy Spirit also allows us to see the world from a completely different point of view.

One of the questions that Christians ask most is: “How do we know the will of God for my life?” The answer is quite simple: 90% of God's will for your life is revealed in His Word. Love your neighbor, do not steal or commit adultery, etc. The instructions are clear, yet people say that they don't know what God wants from them. In the nutshell, God wants obedience to His Word. Why would the Lord reveal His will for your personal life if you are not submitted to His Word? As you submit to the Lord, He will reveal the unique plan that He has for your individual life.

In Romans 12:2b, the author challenges us to “prove” what is that *good* – *acceptable* – and *perfect* will of God. Listen to what the scriptures say about good – acceptable and perfect.

**Good:** 1 Timothy 6:18-19 *Let them do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give willing to share, storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.*

**Acceptable:** Romans 14:17 *For the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. For he who serves Christ in these things is acceptable to God and approved by men.*

Perfect: James 1:3-4 ...*knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.*

**OBSERVATIONS:**

1. Give three additional words that clearly explain the meaning of “conform.”
  
2. What is the difference between the words *conform* and *transformed*?

**INTERPRETATION:**

1. Explain what is meant by the term “be not conformed to this *world*.”
  
2. Romans 12:1 says to present your bodies as a living sacrifice. What is meant by the word sacrifice?

**PERSONALIZATION:**

1. What spiritual experiences have helped to renew your mind?
  
2. In what ways have you presented your body as a living sacrifice?
  
3. What can you do to make a greater personal sacrifice for the Lord?

**APPLICATION:**

1. Think of something that you can add to your current practices that will help advance the renewal of your mind.