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PRAYER

Loving Father, too often my mind is deflected from Jesus onto the things of the world, especially when times are difficult, but I want to keep my mind on Christ, knowing that this is your best will for me. I pray that I will become increasingly aware of the Spirit's promptings in my life, so that day by day, my heart and mind may become saturated with the lovely Lord Jesus. May his nature be reflected through my actions and attitude and may my life be transformed daily by the renewing of my mind. Help me to prove in my life what your will for me is, and may I do only those things that are good, acceptable, and perfect in your sight - for your praise and glory, and for the benefit of others. This I ask in the matchless name of Jesus, Amen.

From Prayer Knowing Jesus



Have you ever had to give up something that you really enjoyed? What was it? Was it easy to give up? Why or why not?

NOTES

WORD

³³ Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!

³⁴ "For who has known the mind of the Lord,

or who has been his counselor?"

- ³⁵ "Or who has given a gift to him
- that he might be repaid?"

³⁶ For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

^{12:1} I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.
² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.

ROMANS 11:33-12:3

None of us can claim to come even close to knowing the vastness of wisdom that God possesses. Then why is it that often humanity struggles to relinquish control of our own will in exchange for the worship of the One who knows what is best for us? We must ask ourselves - why would we settle for anything less than God, who allows us to have our mind renewed, so that we might know what his perfect, good, and acceptable plan is for our life!

► GUIDE QUESTIONS

(NUMBERED ACCORDING TO LEVEL OF DEPTH AND READINESS TO SHARE)

- 1. On a scale from 1-10 (1 = completely unable; 10 = always consistent), how would you rate your trust in God's plan? Why have you rated yourself this way?
- 2. You can tell what a person worships by what they are willing to sacrifice everything for. How far are you willing to go to worship God?
- 3. A renewed mind (12:2) is one that thinks with sober judgement and doesn't think too highly of themselves (12:3). Do you have people in your life that can tell you that you are thinking too highly of yourself? What are other ways we can ensure that we do not think too highly of ourselves?
- 4. Do you find yourself conforming to the world in any areas of your life, rather than allowing God to transform your thinking in line with his word and his Spirit? If so, would you be willing to allow God to transform your life through the renewing of your mind?
- 5. Would you like to trust your life with God, who is our All Knowing Source and Owner (11:36)? Would you like to receive the gift of a renewed mind, forever walking with God, as you enter into a saving relationship with him through Jesus? Ask your Life Group leader to lead you in prayer to receive Christ. You can pray this prayer:

Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner, and I ask for your forgiveness. I believe you died for my sins and rose from the dead. I turn from my sins and invite you to come into my heart and life. I want to trust and follow you as my Lord and Saviour. In Jesus' name, Amen.

PRAYER