

Lesson 1 – OUR MIND, OUR CONTROL ROOM

1. Our minds need to be renewed – New ideas and a **new attitude**. Romans. 12:1,2 “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies (both members and facilities) a living sacrifice, **holy, acceptable** unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world, but **be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind**, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”
2. II Corinthians 10:5 – “**Casting down imaginations (reasonings)**, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.”
3. Colossians 2:8 “**Beware** lest any man spoil you (become a victim of prey) **through philosophy or vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.**”
Ephesians 4:17-20 - Read
4. “**That ye put off concerning the former conversation** the old man, which is corrupt according to deceitful lusts; And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that **ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.**” Ephesians 4:22-24
5. **Vain thoughts are a pre-requisite to evil deeds.** Good thoughts bring forth good actions. Micah 2:1 “Woe to them that devise iniquity, and work evil upon their beds! When the morning is light, they practice it, because it is in the power of their hand.” Matthew 12:34,35 “A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth good things and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things.” Philippians 4:8 – “Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are **just**, whatsoever things are **pure**, whatsoever things are **of good report**, if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise think on these things.” (Fix your mind on these things.)
6. **How do we go about “renewing our minds?** By the “**replacement theory**” Just as in the renovation of an old building, the rotten materials have to be torn out and all new materials put in their place. Get rid of the wrong kinds of literature, videos and music. Destroy it! Get rid of the wrong kinds of literature, videos and music. Destroy it! Replace with new ones. **Have an understanding with your family about these things.**
7. **Choose friends with like convictions.** II Corinthians 6:14,15 “Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness?

And what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord (harmony) hath Christ with Belial?” Or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?” **Our choice of friends will either make or break us.**

Colossians 3:16 – “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.”

Psalms 40:2. “He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings.”

1. **Have much to say in the choice of friends your children have.** Sometimes we need to spend less time with even some relatives Explain to your children the reason.
2. **What do the things you hear, see, and think upon cause you to want to do?** This is a good test. If it is doubtful, it is dirty.
10. **“Commit thy works unto the Lord, and thy thoughts shall be established.** Proverbs 16:3
11. **Obedience always brings blessing.** (Very clearly taught in the O.T.)
12. **Our prayer should be** – Psalm 51:10 – Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.” Psalm 19:14 “Let the words of my mouth, and the **meditation of my heart**, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.”
13. Your life cannot be fulfilled alone. You must look to your Savior for guidance and help through prayer and total commitment to God.
14. **Have you ever really told God you want Him to control your life?**

You are the fellow who has to decide
Whether you’ll do it or toss it aside.
You are the fellow, who makes up your mind
Whether you will try for a goal that’s afar,
Or just be contented to stay where you are
Take it or leave it, there’s something to do
Just think it over, it’s all up to YOU!

Lesson 2 – DECORATING THE TEMPLE

1. Who are we?
 - a. Children of God - John 1:12 – Do we uphold the family name?
 - b. Ambassadors for Christ – II Corinthians 5:20 – WE REPRESENT HIM.
2. What do we mean when we say we are “Decorating the Temple”?
 - a. I Corinthians 3:16,17 “Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is **holy**, which temple ye are.”
 - b. I Corinthians 6:19,20 – “What, know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit which are God’s”
 - c. Galatians 2:20 – “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me...”
3. Glorify God in your body and in your spirit. – I Corinthians 10:31 “Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.”
4. Our responsibility as women
 - a. Apparel which becomes women professing godliness – I Timothy 2:9,10 – “In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety,”(Habitual temperance, seriousness, self-discipline especially of natural appetites).
 - b. Give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully I Timothy 5:14 “I will, therefore that the younger women marry, bear children, guide the house, give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully.”
5. A good rule to follow in our dress: “**LOTS, LONG, LOOSE AND LADYLIKE**. Unisex, Women’s Lib and Homosexuality foster wrong dress.
 - a. Clean, pressed and mended if necessary. Being slouchy does not glorify God. It does not appear more “holy”.
 - b. Not revealing – (Long slits, low necklines, etc.) Mary Quant, the designer of the mini skirt said this: “I made it so a man can look at you and say ‘There’s a girl from whom I can get anything I want. The dress tells me so.’” Our dresses, skirts, and culottes should cover the knee.
 - c. Correct undergarments – A slip is a must!
 - d. Appropriate for the place and occasion. “Dressing up for church indicates respect; for a party, it shows cooperation with the hosts’ plans; for a restaurant or concert a sense of making it a special occasion”. (Miss Manners, Houston Post.) Weddings and funerals are also a place to dress up.
 - e. The way we are dressed effects our attitude about what we are doing. “Psychologists will tell you that one, if dressed casually, becomes casual in the way one conducts oneself” (Jack T. Davis – Dunhill Professional Search)
6. Clothing that will not cause men to sin. (The Muslims required that their women be completely covered not for the protection of the women, but of the men) Matthew 5:28 “...whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.”
 - a. Clothes (or lack of them) are used of women to tempt men. We should please only our husband and our Lord. Are we lustful, sexy or “lovely”?
 - b. Men are tempted through what they see. Proverbs 27:20 “Hell and destruction are never full; so the eyes of man are never satisfied.”
7. There are no different rules for pastor’s wives, missionaries.
8. We should not have conflicting standards in the home and church. Clothes set moods and show attitudes toward God and also toward authority. “My pastor says, but “I think.”
9. Clothes and hairstyles are areas where many Christians want to see just how close they can come to the world.
10. Every season the devil makes sure there are new “styles” that will please only him and his agenda.
11. Many of us have been careful to separate ourselves from worldly practices such as drinking, smoking, etc., but find it difficult to turn our wardrobes over to the Lord as well.
12. We need to be and teach our daughters to be “examples of the believers” in this area as well as others. New believers must see a difference as soon as they come to church.
13. Ask God to help you find the right kinds of clothing. This does not require a lot of money. Sales, Thrift Stores and resale shops are a good place to look. There is a “modest apparel” link on the Internet.
14. **A committed believer must be aware of the shame of nakedness.** Even in the days of the Old Testament a harlot was known by her distinctive dress which set her apart from women who dressed modestly. Proverbs 7:10 Our dress, demeanor (the way we conduct ourselves – sit, stand, walk) and deportment (behavior) must be **holy** and **different from the world**.

Lesson 3 – ETIQUETTE AND MANNERS

1. Etiquette – social politeness or simply doing the correct thing at the right time. Not a “front” to impress others but courtesy must be part of us. Manners – Rules of social conduct or approved deportment. Successful means of living with others. We should not act courteously when we are out and crude at home.
2. The Bible is our rulebook. Ephesians 4:32 – “And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ’s sake hath forgiven you.” Galatians 6:2 – “Bear ye one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.” One of the best ways for us to know the Lord Jesus in a more personal way is to follow his instructions on how to live with others.
3. Good manners are based on solid principles such as honesty, unselfishness, consideration, kindness, sympathy and thoughtfulness, not to mention love, which is the capstone of all.
4. Manners come from the inside out. Matthew 15:18-20 - “But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart.”
5. Manners at home must be sincere. We are among the ones we love. We do not berate our brothers and sisters or our parents if we truly love them and are concerned with their well being. Philippians 2:3 “Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.”
6. Manners at school or work – Treat teachers and bosses with respect and honor.
7. Manners at Church – Where 2 or 3 are gathered together, God has promised to be our midst. This should make all the difference in the world in our attitude and conduct. Our attitude toward our Heavenly Father is reflected in our appearance and actions.
 - a. Sunday clothes should be conservative, dressy and not casual. Our children should be taught to “dress up” for Jesus. Shoes should be shined and clothing laid out the night before. They should look forward to going to God’s house and learning about Him. Make it special and exciting. Plan ahead.
 - b. Boisterousness should not be allowed in the sanctuary.
 - c. The God-given responsibility of teachers should be respected
 - d. Offertory music has been chosen to be a blessing and to set the mood for the service. This is not a “commercial time”.
 - e. When shaking hands, the lady should extend her hand first.
 - f. Church is not a time to drink or eat, put on makeup or lotion.
 - g. If you have to leave and come back in, sit in the back. Bathroom stops should be made before services. Remind your children
 - h. We want the message and invitation to be most effective. Be quietly in prayer. Avoid distractions like putting on coats and zipping Bible covers.
8. Manners in general
 - a. **BE ON TIME!** Being late shows disrespect for those with whom we work, our pastor, our teachers, our hostess, etc.
 - b. A gentlemen will not wear a hat in the buildings or at the table. He will rise when a lady enters a room or on the platform, etc.
 - c. Thank you notes never go out of style.
 - d. Wipe feet before entering someone’s home.
 - e. Adults should be called by a respectful name.
 - f. Speak up! (Please, thank-you, excuse me, etc.)
 - g. If you are getting something to eat or drink, ask other family members or guests if they would like some too.
 - h. Do not be loud or boisterous. Have a meek and quiet spirit.
9. Your hair is your “crowning glory. It adds more to your appearance than any other single item. “The real low in the “come as you areness” is the “wet look” It is the stringy looking uncombed hairdo that looks as though women just emerged from the shower...” Brother Wiley Cameron
10. Your looks reveal your culture – manners. Your hair and clothes affect your poise. Often before you open your mouth, people make a judgment of you. Men do not want their women to be like them. The more feminine you are the better.
12. At receptions and other eating functions, be aware of where your children are and what they are doing. Practice good eating habits at home so your children know how to act gracefully when they go out.
 - a. When at a dinner, do not begin to eat until the host or hostess has at least placed his fork on his plate.
 - b. When one is finished eating, he should place the knife and fork across the middle of his plate.
 - c. Do not make a scene if you do not care for something. Just because I don’t like it does not make it “gross”. Be graceful and teach your children to do the same.
13. Work on self-improvement. Christ first, others, and yourself last.
14. When we become a Christians, our entire inner life undergoes a complete change. II Corinthians 5:17.
15. **Do you know for sure that you have accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as your Personal Savior?** Has there been a time, a place, and a noticeable change? If not, He loves you and is waiting and anxious to save you. Please accept Him today.

Lesson 4 – **BOY/GIRL RELATIONSHIPS**

1. Train up a child in the way he should go...” Proverbs 22:6 Teach by the Word and example. Children observe so much! Even though we need rules to live by, teach from the Scriptures and explain the reason. II Timothy 3:15 – “And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus”. Has your child heard your testimony and knows that you are a child of God? How sad to hear of a lost child sometimes just outside the door
2. Guard your friendships. Keep strong Scriptural convictions.
 - a. Workplaces are filled with women who have been married several times and have no conviction about pre-marital sex.
 - b. Love novels, TV shows, magazines, etc., teach contrary to the Word of God.
 - c. I Corinthians 6:14 “Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers...” Friendships, marriage, business relations, etc.
3. Philippians 4:8 “...whatsoever things are pure...” Those who stay pure have **NO REGRETS**. Those who engage in illicit (unlawful) sex often turn to alcohol and drugs. Homes are broken, lives ruined.
4. God’s kind of love love - I Corinthians 13:4-8 – Longsuffering, patient, kind, vaunteth not itself (boastful, jealous or vainglorious)...seeketh not her own, (conceited, arrogant, inflated with pride) ...does not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, not easily provoked, thinketh no evil.
5. There are worse things than not being married. Teach them to wait on the Lord to bring the right person.
6. Now to get to the boy/girl relationships.
 - a. I Corinthians 7:1,2 “...it is good (profitable and wholesome) for a man to touch (affectionately handle, cohabit with) a woman ...to avoid fornication (immorality), let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband.” I Corinthians 3:16,17 “Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.”
 - b. When our children get to the age when their bodies are developing into adulthood, we must teach and explain these things to them (not just make rules.) Young people want us to be honest with them. Do not allow your children to learn from each other or in school.
 - c. Are we setting the right example before them. Sometimes we know we have had problems with these things in the past.

We also know the heartaches they can cause. If we know the Lord and have asked His forgiveness, (I John 1:9) we know He has forgiven us. We do not have to “confess” to our children. We do that to the Lord, but we can let them know the heartache experienced because of things we do contrary to God’s will.

7. Here are a few suggestions that might help.
 - a. Make every provision for your young people to take advantage of a good youth group for their activities. Make sure the directors and sponsors share the right convictions.
 - b. Group activities are fun and they give your young people an opportunity to interact with the opposite sex in a wholesome environment. Also Christian colleges with standards are a safe place for our young people.
 - c. You never know when your child will meet the person he or she will marry. (sometimes in the first grade) Early friendships and family friendships are so important.
 - d. Parents should decide when and if a young person is permitted to date. Don’t allow yourself to be pressured because “everybody is doing it.” It is a good thing to not allow any dating until after high school and then only in a group situation..
 - e. I Corinthians 10:13 “There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it. Often that “way to escape” is the two things we are standing on. Get out of the situation. James 1:14 “But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, (baited by his own evil desire) and enticed.”
 - f. Kisses and petting are a language of love. Boys and girls are like magnets. They do not realize that getting too close often leads to a quick plunge. Even engagements can be broken. A young lady is not the property of a young man until the “band of gold”.
 - g. Young men and women should not be able to spend time in each other’s bedroom.
 - h. If he is to honor her body, she needs to honor his also.
 - i. Let our young people know that lovemaking is not wrong. It is blessed of God in marriage. In a rightful marriage parents are able to rear children correctly and supply their needs both physically and spiritually.
 - j. When babies are born out of wedlock there are battles over custody, support, etc.

Lesson 5 –ORDER AT HOME AND TRAINING CHILDREN

1. Order is extremely important
 - a. I Corinthians 14:33 and 40 “For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace...” (Confusion – tumult)
 - b. Proverbs 31:26 – “She openeth her mouth with wisdom, and in her tongue is the law of kindness.” (Faith, good habits, words of wisdom – passed on from one generation to another.
 - c. People do not have to “accept me the way I am.” Why not ask God to show us the areas where we can best glorify Him.
 - d. Train by example. Recruit Dad’s help.
 - e. **Orderliness is a courtesy!** It saves many steps and keeps the “wheels” running smoothly. It includes punctuality, cleanliness, dependability and loyalty. (Good character traits.)
 - f. **Our children will be the type husbands and wives that they are now becoming. They are real people.**
 - (1) Hang up clothes properly and (Purchase 8-day supply.)
Hangers going one way in the closet. Clothes right side out.
 - (2) Dirty clothes in the hamper
 - (3) Towels folded and hung up
 - (4) Dishes carried to the kitchen and rinsed
 - (5) Chairs under table
 - (6) Trash in the proper receptacle. Mom is not the family servant.
 2. “A bishop must be one that ruleth his own household, having his children in subjection I Timothy 3:4 Every Christian’s household is part of his testimony and effectiveness for God. With the proper attitude, the *housewife* becomes a *homemaker*.”
 3. Training includes molding of character, instruction, drill, to make obedient to orders, to point in an exact direction. Training helps the child to be submissive to the will and purpose of God. “Oh that there were such a heart in them, that they would fear me, and keep all my commandments always, that it might be well with them, and with their children forever.” Deuteronomy 5:29
 - a. Big things have small beginnings. When we train a child to obey, we can go on to teach him in many areas.
 - b. Practice what you want them to practice.
 - c. Watch parental pride. It is easy to require too much when we want to make an impression. Philippians 2:3,4 “Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.”
 - d. Training includes discipline. (Obedience, use of time, goals)
 - e. Teach pride in work and accomplishment. Work and earn money for things they want. Teach how to budget. Do not pay for everything. Let them earn things. The feeling of accomplishment makes for a happy child. Selfishness makes for a very unhappy child – one that is never satisfied.
 - (1) Working together as a family teaches team effort. We all help and we all “enjoy”. Have them work along beside you. Let them learn from mom and dad. Have chores for each of them. Start early to teach order and unselfishness. Make it a pleasant experience.
 - (2) Laundry (includes folding and putting away.)
 - (3) Cooking – A collection of mom’s favorite recipes will be priceless to them
 - (4) Cleaning (show them how)
 - (5) Boys can learn these things too. Prepares them for the day they go to college or leave home for a job out of town, etc.
 - (6) Teach them to read a map. (Both boys and girls)
 - (7) Plan ahead so that you will have time to work with your children. Maybe plan and make meals a week ahead.
 - f. Teach them to have pride in their possessions.
 - g. Teach them to respect and honor the privacy of others.
 - h. Have a place for everything.
 - i. Obedience shows love – John 14:21 “He that hath my commandments and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me...”
 - j. God does not give us children because of what we can do for them but also for what they can do for us.
 4. Will your daughter-in-law or son-in-law praise you and call you blessed?
 5. Can your husband invite his boss or out-of-town business associate home with just a few minutes notice?
 6. Our Lord will be honored if our homes and our children are orderly. Like in Proverbs 31:28 our children will rise up, and call us blessed and our husband also will praise us.
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“Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.”
I Corinthians 10:31

“For the Christian, life is not divided into the secular and the sacred. To him all ground is holy ground, every bush a burning bush, and every place a temple of worship.”
Dr. Bob Jones, Sr.

Lesson 6 – LOVING FOR JESUS

1. God's love toward us
 - a. John 3:16 God so loved that He gave his most precious possession, His Son.
 - b. God commended His love toward us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us.
 - c. A new commandment (John 13:34,35) "That ye love one another as I have loved you."
 - d. God's kind of love - I Corinthians 13:4-8
 - (1) Long suffering
 - (2) Patient, kind
 - (3) Envieth not
 - (4) Vaunteth not itself – not boastful or haughty
 - (5) Seeketh not her own – does not insist on its own way. Not easily provoked
 - (6) Rejoiceth in righteousness
 - (7) Beareth all things – bears up under anything that comes knowing that God is in control
 - (8) Never faileth – or fades
2. Our love for God
 - a. Deuteronomy 6:5-8 "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.....teach them diligently unto thy children.
 - b. John 14:21 "He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him."
 - c. I John 5:3 "For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments: and his commandments are not grievous."
3. Our love for others
 - a. Love our enemies – Matthew 5:46
 - b. I Peter 1:22 ' Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently."
4. Ways to show our love:
 - a. Burdened for their salvation
 - (1) Show love firsthand – kindness and consideration
 - (2) Take whatever time is needed
 - (3) Be a true "unfeigned" friend
 - (4) Listen! Don't assume you already know the need. This includes our husband and our children.

5. What are some of the needs of others?
 - (a) Salvation
 - (b) Loneliness
 - (c) Broken hearts and sorrow
 - (d) Illness
 - (e) Forgiveness from others and toward ourselves
 - (f) Problems rearing children or in marriage.
6. The answers to all of these can be found in God's Word. If you don't know the answer, ask for a time to find it. Mark your Bible ahead of time with passages that meet different needs. It may be necessary to put them in touch with the pastor.
7. Time is never wasted when we are sincerely trying to meet the needs of others. Remember how patient God has been with you.

Suggestions:

1. Eat together at the table as a family with no TV
2. Let them "help mom" – better in school later – happier
3. Friends of your children – Open your home and life to them.
4. Let them see real love demonstrated in your home – Be cheerful and show the joy of the Lord
5. Let others know you are on praying ground with your Lord. Take prayer requests and don't forget to follow up. Show a genuine interest in the needs of others including your children.

THE WONDERFUL WOMEN IN MY CIRCLE

When I was little, I used to believe in the concept of one best friend,
And then I started to become a woman.
And then I found out that if you allow your heart to open up,
God would show you the best in many friends.

One friend is needed when you're going through things with your husband..
Another friend is needed when you're going through things with your mom.
Another when you want to shop, share, heal, hurt, joke, or just be.
But whatever the need in your life, or whatever the occasion,
Those are your friends.

So whether they've been there 20 minutes or 20 years,
These are the women that God has placed in your life.
Make a difference!

It is important to make sure those with whom we are surrounded have the opportunity to know the plan of salvation and accept Christ as their personal savior. We are also responsible to be an encouragement toward spiritual growth and maturity in their lives.

"LET THE BEAUTY OF JESUS BE SEEN IN ME"