



Change Your Mind

Key Texts: John 4:1-42, Romans 12:1-2

## OPEN

---

This week we are continuing our Pursuing Jesus series looking at our vision and values as a church. Last week we looked at the core value of being Spirit-led and this week we are focusing on Transformation. This core value is that we would experience transformation through Jesus on every level of our lives from the way we think (head), feel (heart) and live out our faith (hands). Evidence of a transformed life is usually seen through changed behaviours (how people live) but this change often begins first in the mind as God transforms our thoughts and renews our minds as we encounter his truth.

This week we are going to examine a story of a woman who experienced transformation when she met Jesus. The truth of Jesus changes her mind, her heart, and ultimately her life. Paul in Romans 12 also invites us to experience a transformed life by conforming our thoughts, not to the pattern of the world, but to the ways of Jesus through the "renewing of our minds".

## REFLECT

---

- Read the story of the woman at the well in John 4:1-42.
  - What details stand out to you?
  - Why are these significant? What do they teach you about the life and ministry of Jesus?
- In John 4:4 Jesus brings the gospel to the Samaritans who were enemies of the Jews who Jesus was one of. What does this teach you about the kind of people God wants to reach with the gospel?

## DISCUSS

---

- The religious elite like Nicodemus in John 3 fail to understand and receive the gospel, but the unreligious Samaritan woman receives the gospel and is changed. What does this teach you about the gospel? Who can accept it?
- John 4:6 says that Jesus sat down to rest at the well because he was tired from his journey. How this reminder of Jesus' humanity an encouragement to you? How does this impact your trust in him?
- Read Hebrews 4:15-16. How does Jesus' humanity allow him to minister to your human needs today as your heavenly high priest?
- Think about how Jesus engaged the mind of the Samaritan woman. Transformation of the heart often begins with transformation of the mind as God's truth renews our thoughts. Read Romans 12:1-2. How does Jesus transform our lives by renewing our minds? Why is meditating on God's word and truth so important if we want to experience a transformed life today?

## APPLY

---

Anglican writer W. H. Griffith-Thomas: ***"[Faith] commences with the conviction of the mind based on adequate evidence; it continues in the confidence of the heart or emotions based on conviction; and it is crowned in the consent of the will, by means of which the conviction and confidence are expressed in conduct."***

- Discuss this quote. How much does God's word and truth impact your own transformed life in Jesus?
- What are the lies you have allowed to shape your life? How can you begin to replace those with God's truth this week?

## PRAY

---

- Pray that God would transform each others lives not by the pattern of this world but by the truth and love of Jesus.