

Stage 1 is an introduction to 3 Stages for spiritual growth and maturity for reaching your calling and kingdom success. Stage 1 provides a means of identifying and locating where you are in your (spiritual) growth & your progress leading into maturity.

In this stage you will be able to observe and recognize your inner thoughts, behaviors & beliefs that are interrupting your progress and keeping you stagnant.

This stage presents enlightenment and tools to apply that will allow the word to reconstruct your attitude, approach and experience taking you to new levels

**From this Stage 1 you will gain the following:**

- Break free from opinion, control & criticism of others to expand your vision and assume responsibility for personal success
- Recognize your inner dialogue to terminate judgement, comparison, and self sabotage
- Ability to accept your authenticity, come out of compromise, & Go up
- Turn from defeating ways, move forward with determination and turn to a winning mindset

## Stage 1 (study scriptures in other translations: KJV-NIV-MSG)

**Repent:** The traditional understanding is asking for forgiveness of a wrong doing, but it's actually a changing of mind. God gives us a place of repentance when HE reveals HIS way and His mind about a thing. We change our thinking with a clear understanding on how God thinks on any subject. We must get the mind of God, and thereby have a renewed mind.

**Romans 12:2** Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is, his good, pleasing and perfect will.

**Acts: 3:19** Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the lord

**Isa: 30:15** This is what the Sovereign Lord, the Holy One of Israel, says: "in repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength, but you would not have none of it"

**Mark:1:15** The time has come," he said, The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news

Stage 1

# Taking Thoughts Captive

## Thoughts to remove

Condemnation  
Limitations  
Fear  
Reasonings

The weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God To the pulling down of strong holds.

Weapons are not physically enforced  
Weapons are not of manipulation or attitude

We are to cast down imaginations, and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of GOD, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ (KJV)  
We demolish arguments (opposite views) and every pretention (claim of more importance than actually) that sets itself against the knowledge of God and TAKE CAPTIVE EVERY THOUGHT TO MAKE IT OBEDIENT TO CHRIST (NIV)

# Condemnation & Reasonings

## Condemnation

- Imprisoning yourself in your own mind
- A sentencing – A verdict of punishment
  - ***Spiritual Aspects of condemnation***

Bondage / Stronghold

*We are free of condemnation*

Romans 8:1 Therefore, there is NOW no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus

The flesh is a mind set, which is death, as we expand our mind set, we expand our spirituality

Walk in the Spirit not after the flesh

Jesus died for our sins & condemned sin in the flesh – Romans 8:3c

## Reasonings

- Points of View
- Interpretations & Perspectives
- Creates Reality
  - Examine Thoughts

Where did the thought come from

Is the thought just your perspective

What have you interpreted the thought to mean

How are you reacting or responding to the thought

Our responses are creating our reality

Romans 8:6 The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life & peace.

## Condemnation:

The expression of a very strong disapproval, to declare guilty or wrong.  
The act of condemning someone to a punishment, a sentencing.

### The Gift of NO Condemnation;

John 3:17

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him

Romans 8:1-2

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit WHO gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death

### Attributes of No Condemnation:

- Mercy - Receiving undeserved favor

Ephesians 2:4-5

But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions – it is by grace you have been saved

Romans 9: 15-16

For he says to Moses, "I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion. It does not, therefore depend on human desire or effort, but on God's mercy

- Grace – God free and undeserved love that never quits

John 6:37

All those the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will NEVER drive away

Ephesians 2:8

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is NOT FROM YOURSELVES, it is the gift of God – NOT OF WORKS SO THAT NO ONE CAN BOAST

## REASONINGS

Mark 11:23 Truly I tell you, if anyone says to this mountain, "Go, throw yourself into the sea," and does not doubt in their heart but believes that what they say will happen, it will be done for them.

*This is your point of view. It's the way you see a thing, that can be seen in a different way to another.*

*It is seeing the glass half full or half empty*

*Your interpretation of an act or circumstance, what you determine the act or circumstance to mean about you and for your life.*

*The way your perspective and interpretation causes you to react or respond*

*Creation initiates in the mind & the mouth. Monitor your thoughts and control what comes out your mouth*

## CAUSE & EFFECT

## Fear

An unpleasant emotion caused by the belief that someone or something is dangerous, is likely to cause harm or is a threat. It is a powerful feeling, emotion or thing.

We all have fears because it is a basic human emotion. However it is a false perception of reality. Fear is a stronghold that can stop you in your tracks. It can be a powerful enemy or an intimidating phobia.

When fear attacks no one understands how real and powerful it can be (no one, that is but God)

Fear can and will take over our lives and lead us, if we allow it. It is God's intention to lead our lives.

**1 John 4:18** There is no fear in love. But perfect (mature, complete) love drives out fear, because fear has to do with PUNISHMENT. The one who fears is not made in perfect (mature, complete) love.

**2 Tim 1:7** For God hath not given us the spirit of fear, but of power, of love, and a sound mind.

## LIMITATIONS

Imperfection, flaws, defeats, failing, shortcomings, weak points.

These are all YOKES of limitation, to be broken.

God is infinite. God is all powerful, all knowing, all capable. There are no limits restricting God. **Despite this, followers of God tend to limit his power.** But if we tap into professing his promises and his word continually, it will open us up to receiving his unlimited blessings.

A limited mind is a restricted mind living in the land of plenty. Although we know we belong with plenty, we struggle in being there.

We suffer in a land of plenty, where there are plenty of opportunities & possibilities. This is a spirit of limitations. We must conquer it or we remain victims.

### DECLARATIONS:

Refuse to be subject to limitations;

Declare total freedom from this spiritual choke hold

Command this spirit, holding you down to release you NOW

Step out of the confines of what you can't do and do something, expecting GOD to show up, with revelation, demonstration, or confirmation.

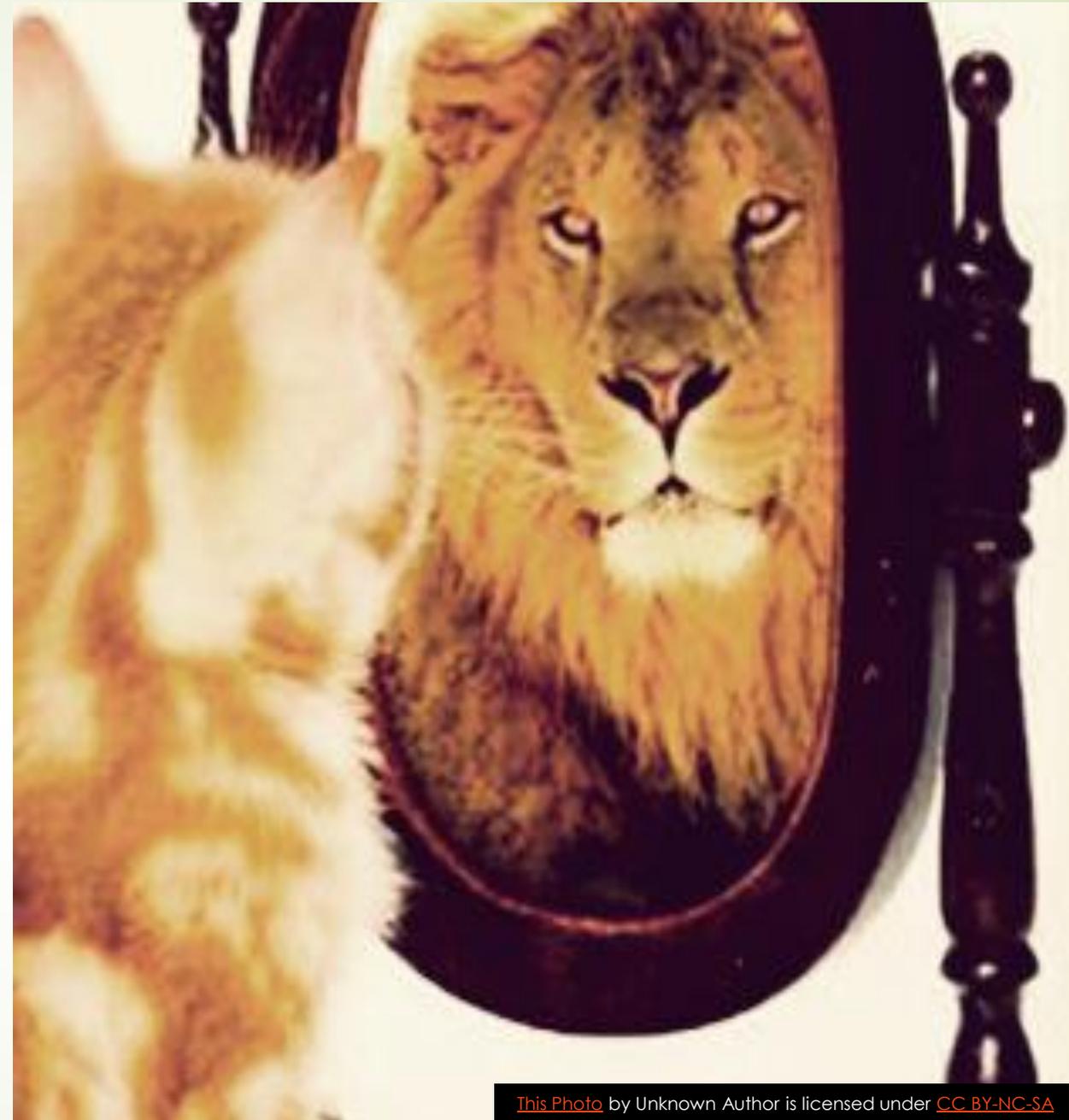
**Affirm Your Greatness**

## Stage 1

# A Change of Mind

- ▶ As we change our minds to agree with God, by removing and taking thoughts captive, we will see the change in our attitude and outlook regarding ourselves and others.
- ▶ As we align our thoughts to match who God says we are, we are persuaded of HIS thoughts about us and what HE intends for us to BE, DO & HAVE. We will become more aware of what challenges us, where our fears were set upon us, and we seek to overcome and Be WOKE
- ▶ As we recognize and take inventory of ourselves, we can be determined to destroy the YOKE of past down traditions, impressionable culture, and demoralizing social conditions
- ▶ What happens now? It is at this time the new creature emerges. Where necessity and circumstances converge to submerge

**THE NEW ME**



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# What's next

- **Practice – Observe – Imagine**
- In this course we have repented of old ways of being and thinking. I'd like to stress that as we have rightly changed our behaviors, it takes time, focus and determination to change our thought life to create a brand new reality.
- **It is in our thoughts and imagination that we create our reality. Thoughts become things.**
- Now we've changed our thinking by removing and not allowing, condemnation, limitations & fears that once had a negative impact on our lives, we now discipline our mind and imagine the possibilities while we discard anything contrary to what God wants us to **Be Do and Have**
- Going forward, fight the good fight of faith, be reassured God is up to something good, then declare the good to unfold with confession and affirmation of what YOU **want** to see.



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It is our suggestion to study this with a group and keep a journal of personal progress or change along with the groups progress or change  
Terrance & Lisa