

## Renewing our Minds - Part Two

(A Six Part Series)

Reason Two: It is important to renew our minds so that we can relate to one another as Christians.

*(1 Corinthians 1:10 NLT) “Now, dear brothers and sisters, I appeal to you by the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ to **stop arguing** among yourselves. **Let there be real harmony so there won't be divisions in the church.** I plead with you to **be of one mind, united in thought and purpose.**”*

Paul wrote to the Corinthians because it had been reported to him that there was division and quarreling among the Corinthians. They were arguing with each other because they were not thinking alike. They were operating in the wisdom of men instead of the wisdom of God.

The only way we can relate to each other as Christians is if we renew our minds. We must be able to think in the same way so we can understand one another, live in peace and unity with one another, love one another, and have the same goal to work together to build the Kingdom of God.

### 1. We are to be of “one mind.”

*(Romans 15:6 NKJV) “that you may with **one mind** and one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.”*

The Greek word, used in Romans 15:6 for “one mind” is “homothumadon.” Its original meaning was, “unanimously:--with one accord (mind).”<sup>1</sup>

*(2 Corinthians 13:11 NKJV) “Finally, brethren, farewell. Become complete. Be of good comfort, be of **one mind**, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.”*

The Greek word used in 2 Corinthians 13:11 for “one mind” is, “phroneo.” Among its original meanings were, “to exercise the mind or have a sentiment or opinion; to interest oneself in (with concern or obedience): to set the affection on, to be of the same, to think alike.”

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<sup>1</sup> Definitions will be derived from Strong's Concordance

*(Philippians 1:27 NKJV) "Only let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of your affairs, that you stand fast in one spirit, with **one mind** striving together for the faith of the gospel,"*

The Greek word used in Philippians 1:27 for "one mind" is "psuche," which is interpreted as "breath," or "spirit." This implies a requirement to be of one mind beyond the carnal, and into the spiritual.

*(Philippians 2:2 NKJV) "fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, being of **one accord**, of **one mind**."*

The Greek word used in Philippians 2:2 for "one accord" is "sumpsuchos," soom'-psoo-khos; which is similar in sentiment to "like-minded." The Greek word, "phroneo" (one mind) also occurs in this verse.

*(1 Peter 3:8 NKJV) "Finally, all of you be of **one mind**, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous;"*

The Greek word used in 1 Peter 3:8 for "one mind" is "homophron." It means, "like-minded, harmonious" and "of one mind."

From its use in the Scriptures, you can see how important being of "one mind" is to God. What does "one mind" mean to you, in a practical sense? How can this impact your relationship with others?

## 2. We are to "agree."

*(Matthew 18:19 NKJV) "Again I say to you that if two of you **agree** on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven."*

Matthew's word for "agree" is "sumphoneo," which means, "to be harmonious, to concur, to stipulate by compact," or "to agree together."

What impact can "agreement" (or disagreement) have on your life, and how you relate to those around you?

## 3. We are to "love one another."

Take the time to study the following Scriptures. Let them speak to you.

(John 13:34-35 NKJV) "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. {35} "By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have **love for one another.**"

(John 15:12 NKJV) "This is My commandment, that you **love one another** as I have loved you."

(John 15:17-19 NIV) "This is my command: **Love each other.** {18} If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first. {19} If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you."

(1 Thessalonians 4:9-10 NLT) "But I don't need to write to you about the **Christian love that should be shown among God's people.** For God himself has taught you to love one another. {10} Indeed, your love is already strong toward all the Christians in all of Macedonia. Even so, dear friends, we beg you to **love them more and more.**"

(1 Peter 1:21-22 NLT) "Through Christ you have come to trust in God. And because God raised Christ from the dead and gave him great glory, your faith and hope can be placed confidently in God. {22} Now you can **have sincere love for each other** as brothers and sisters because you were cleansed from your sins when you accepted the truth of the Good News. So see to it that you really **do love each other intensely with all your hearts.**"

(1 John 3:10-11 NLT) "So now we can tell who are children of God and who are children of the Devil. Anyone who does not obey God's commands and does not love other Christians does not belong to God. {11} This is the message we have heard from the beginning: We should **love one another.**"

(1 John 3:23 NLT) "And this is his commandment: We must believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and **love one another**, just as he commanded us."

(1 John 4:6-12 NLT) "But we belong to God; that is why **those who know God listen to us.** If they do not belong to God, they do not listen to us. That is how we know if someone has the Spirit of truth or the spirit of deception. {7} Dear friends, let us continue to **love one another**, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is born of God and knows God. {8} But anyone who does not love does not know God--for God is love. {9} God showed how much he loved us by sending his only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him. {10} This is real love. It is not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his

*Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins. {11} Dear friends, since God loved us that much, we surely ought **to love each other**. {12} No one has ever seen God. But if we **love each other**, God lives in us, and his love has been brought to full expression through us.”*

*(2 John 1:4-6 NIV) “It has given me great joy to find some of your children walking in the truth, just as the Father commanded us. {5} And now, dear lady, I am not writing you a new command but one we have had from the beginning. I ask that **we love one another**. {6} And this is love: that we walk in obedience to his commands. As you have heard from the beginning, his command is that you **walk in love**.”*

How does “love one another” translate into daily living for you?