

Under Renovation II

“Neither do people pour new wine into old wineskins. If they do, the skins will burst; the wine will run out and the wineskins will be ruined. No, they pour new wine into new wineskins, and both are preserved.”

~Matthew 9:17

Under Renovation is the process of being renewed through God’s righteousness. The Lord will test, try, or break you so that He could build your faith and trust in Him. The scripture reads, **“But he knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold” Job 23:10**. Also, according to **Jeremiah 17:10, “I the Lord search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.”** Thus, He makes no secret of trying or testing us.

Purpose of the Process

The purpose of the renovation process is to cleanse you of unrighteousness, build your faith, and to equip you to edify the Body of Christ. This is often a willing, yet painful process. Consider how one may travail in childbirth. Although, you wish the pain would end, it’s a process that you have to go through to end the intense pain.

Key Points

- Cleanse you of unrighteousness: We can’t be in His presence with sin.
- Prepare you for the kingdom of God: He has power that He wants to give us.
- To rewire you: We can’t access His power with old, selfish, bitter, or hurt thinking.

Rewiring

We need to be rewired because we tend to think the same and use the Lord’s name to back up our madness. We put new wine in old wine skins and create a mess of our walk with the Lord. We try to justify our faulty, sinful actions by using the name of God or His word. We will make excuses for our bad behavior and excuse it by using the Lord. For example, if you have issue with tardiness, you’ll say that its God’s timing; if you are reprimanded by someone, you’ll say that the person wasn’t showing God’s grace rather than taking responsibility for your actions; or you’ll make the excuse, “The Lord is dealing with me” as a way of not apologizing for your actions. We need to be rewired so that we don’t continue to live unproductive, non-abundant lives because of our inability to change our old ways. Covering our old ways with Jesus excuses keeps you bound up in the enemy’s deceptions and it confuses potential souls. Jesus came to set the captives free. Identify areas in your life that you hold onto excuses. How often do you say, “Don’t judge me,” “God knows my heart” or “I’m *Under Renovation* ©?”

These excuses are selfishly motivated and are indications that you are not ready to give up a sin. Don’t think that you can cover your sin with scripture. Scripture cleanses you of your sin. **Psalms 119:9** reads, **“Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word.”** You see, when we confess our sins, he will cleanse us (1 John 1:9), and then we must replace our actions with his word of God. Confession of sin is a continuous process. If you believe that confession of sins ended when you were first saved, then I believe that you are not living a productive life. In Paul’s letter to the Corinthians, he wrote, **“Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God” 2 Corinthians 7:1**. It is important to note that Paul was writing to the *church* that was established in Corinth. We must humble ourselves before God, by learning His word so that we are able to see our errors. We can’t see sin if we have the world’s wiring, which is it’s mindset and it’s standards. This is grave because the word of God tells us, **“Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life” Galatians 6: 7-8 (NIV)**. The renovation process will challenge your ways and will cause you to challenge your own thinking. You will begin to ponder what’s really important in life and will make decisions accordingly. Not everyone makes it through the process. Some choose the world or some type of a bailout.

Change Your Thought Processes and Perception

The Lord wants us to renovate our thinking. We are too carnally minded. We have allowed the small foxes to feast on our harvest. It shows in how we treat people, how we raise our families, the dynamics of our family, what we watch on TV, and etc. We need to change our thinking because the unbeliever or the undelivered believer may see life through trauma or through selfish ambitions.

Our thinking is in need of the renovation process. **Philippians 2:5** states, **“Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus.”** You do not have to think negatively just because you have a negative experience. We all experience tough situations; it is our choice as to how we perceive and behave after the experience. The enemy tries to target our thoughts because, **“the mind of the flesh [which is sense and reason without the Holy Spirit] is death [death that comprises all the miseries arising from sin, both here and hereafter]. But the mind of the [Holy] Spirit is life and [soul] peace [both now and forever]”** **Romans 8:6** (Amp). Also, **Proverbs 23:7a** tells us, **“For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he.”** The Lord wants you to know, **“Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's.”** **2 Chronicles 20:15**. And finally according to **Colossians 3:1-2**, **“If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.”** We can't continue to represent Christ and hold on to hurt; thereby, allowing our thought processes and our fruit to be tainted by sin. Let it go! Keep your mind on Christ and fight the spiritual battle of oppressing spirits so that you may be free to worship and live life abundantly! Let your mind go through the renovation process with you.

Create With Our Words

The Lord has given us power and He wants us to be able to use it. As women, we are on equal ground when it comes to having spiritual “power”. You see, none of us have it unless it comes from God. Therefore, will the Lord give a female anointing and a male anointing? No! It is all God's anointing thus, it is full strength of whatever measure your faith can activate. First, we must understand that the power is made manifest by our words. We have creative power in our words. We were created in God's image and likeness (Genesis 1:26-27) and were given access to a relationship with Him. Thus, our words hold power, such as our Father's in Heaven. In the beginning, He taught Adam how to speak things into existence by bringing the animals to Adam so that He could name them (Genesis 2:19-20). The word of God also tells us that, **“Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof”** according to **Proverbs 18:21**. Therefore, we must relearn how to use our mouths. The word of God encourages us to stay away from speaking evil; yet, our emotions are often wrapped up in issues that lead us to vent, complain, or murmur. This kills the integrity in our word. When there is no integrity there is no power. We must allow the Lord to clean out our hearts; even the things we thought were taken care of already. We often suppress issues and believe that we are over them, but they subconsciously come up in our thoughts, dreams, perceptions, and actions. We walk around as if everything is okay, but we are really running from liberty in Christ. The word tells us, **“for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh”** according to **Matthew 12:34b**. This is why we need the Renovation process. We struggle with trying to be holy and righteous, but sin, issues, or trauma has wired us incorrectly. In order to speak with integrity into existence (healing, deliverance, salvation for others) we need to allow our hearts to be healed, to be cleansed of our faulty thinking, and to let go of worldly standards. As our souls prosper, all other things will be well with us. **3 John 1:2** exhorts us, **“Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.”**

House That Can Stand for Christ

If you believe that your faith is being shaken, then it is. The Lord tries us and tests us for His glory. He is also preparing us for greater works. However, we can't use the tools of God (prayer, spiritual warfare, His anointing, etc.) effectively if our spiritual house is laid on a weak foundation. Our efforts will be in vain if we continue. **Psalms 127:1** tells us, **“Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it.”** This is an indication that the house can be built, but it will be meaningless or useless when a storm hits.

How do we build a house that is able to weather the storm? One must be willing to submit to God's will and His word. According to **Luke 6:47-49**, **“Whosoever cometh to me, and heareth my sayings, and doeth them, I will shew you to whom he is like: He is like a man which built an house, and digged deep,**

and laid the foundation on a rock: and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock. But he that heareth, and doeth not, is like a man that without a foundation built an house upon the earth; against which the stream did beat vehemently, and immediately it fell; and the ruin of that house was great.” Obeying His word offers us protection in the storms of life.

His word gives instructions, warnings, understandings of life issues and details on how to submit to Him. His word is so powerful that the world takes principals from the Bible, in the form of self-help books, and redirects it back to you. However, this is an unstable foundation because it leads you to trusting in yourself, instead of trusting in God. We have no spiritual strength of our own. It either comes from the Holy Spirit or a demonic spirit. Do not believe that angels will strengthen you spiritually. Although, the Lord uses angels to deliver messages, they always direct you to God, not within you.

Don't Build in Vain

There are blessings associated with salvation in Christ; however, salvation in Christ does not say that the enemy will not attack us. Actually, it prepares us for the attack of the enemy. We must prepare for these attacks by building on God's foundation. **Psalms 102:16** tell us, **“When the Lord shall build up Zion, he shall appear in his glory.”** We must allow God to redirect us with the building process. We are *Under Renovation* so that He can build us into His glory.

The Lord uses us as His vessels. **“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” 1 Corinthians 6:19?** Our bodies are the temples of the living God; thus, he uses us for His glory. Yet, be not deceived. Many times we operate in our flesh doing things that seem good, but it's not of God. The world will suck you of your resources given to you by God, so that you will not have enough to do for His kingdom. Or, the enemy will have you so busy with doing “good” works, which will get you accolades from man, that you will not have time to give to the building of God's kingdom. Allow the Lord to take you *Under Renovation* so that He can rewire your thinking about your foundation and who you believe you are in Him. The world will have you believe that you are a punching bag. But, you are victorious in God. The world will tell you that you are good if you give to those in need. But I challenge this thinking by adding; give to those whom the Lord has called you to give to. Sometimes, we bail people out in the midst of their Renovation process and we hinder their growth. Our giving actually causes them to stumble and become weaker in the Lord. You see, the Lord wants us dependent upon Him, not dependent upon man.

Also, we must be mindful not to pick up our old habits, friends, mindset, or emotions. **Galatians 2:18** warns us, **“For if I build again the things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor.”** Therefore, when you go through your renovation process, don't go back to your old ways. If you discern that someone is going through a renovation process, don't hinder their growth by trying to be their savior or deliverer. That's the role of God.

Finally, the Lord wants you made whole. When you are whole, you are able to pray with power, you are able to create with your words, and you have access to the power of God to heal the sick. The idea of the renovation process is to shake you in such a way that you get to see what's truly important in life and to change you in such a way that you'll never want to go back to being the person you were. There is a blessing in allowing the Lord to build you. According to **2 Samuel 7:13** the blessing reads, **“(S)He shall build an house for my name, and I will stablish the throne of h(er) kingdom for ever.”** Imagine having power, not as the world sees power, but God's power to set other women free from the enemy's bondage. Imagine loving your new, Godly developed self so much that you don't have enough room for jealousy of another. There will not be enough room in your heart for bitterness, hurt, or emotional pain to rest and get comfortable. God wants you to go through the Renovation Process so that He can build the house that will bless you, your children, and generation after generation. He will establish the throne of your kingdom forever. He will reward your obedience by blessing generation after generation. Trust God in the process!

“Behold, I have refined thee, but not with silver; I have chosen thee in the furnace of affliction.” ~Isaiah 48:10

Given by inspiration of the Holy Spirit to Pastor Mickisha Goss