

Transformation into a Kingdom Reality - September 9, 2026

Kevin Diggs Sometimes it's hard to get up here, man, in those worship moments, right? You know, I had a moment right there when I was singing that same song with you guys. Come on, my soul. Right. I was thinking about, uh, a certain group of my extended family and how, you know, I've, I've, I've longed for the day of this extended family to experience Jesus the way I have. And I sent the text to, uh, well, I'll just say one of my cousins and I just told them I loved them. And then I was praying for his family yesterday and that he was the best cousin in the world. And he replied back and he was, you know, very loving in his in his reply. And he said, I just want to let you know I listen to all your servants. He lives in New York. I'll get there. But I'm not the only one that has loved ones right. And I've noticed the change in him in text message. And he said, you know what? I tell my sons about you. And about what you did and what you're doing. He goes, I just wanna let you know. I think it's great. I think it's great. And when you when you if you knew my cousin, you would know that, uh, he's a tough guy and he's a, um, rough around the edges and. But, uh, I believe the Lord's doing something. And so we were singing that part. Come on, my soul. I know that there were times where we all have these things in our lives, and we waiting for God to move. And I believe tonight the Lord was saying, come on, my soul. Catch up to the will of God. Just keep praying. Keep believing because I believe that the latter days will be greater than the former. And I'm here to tell you that. God is good. And we got some stuff we gotta learn tonight, so I gotta, I gotta stop. So with that said, let's open your Bibles and turn to Romans chapter twelve, verses one and three. Uh, tonight we'll do a little bit of learning. I'll do a little bit of teaching, and I'll probably do a little bit of preaching because I don't know how to do it any other way. And if I get loud again, it's because it's football season and I'm in coaching mode. So, um, it's hard to turn one off for the other. But Romans chapter twelve, verses one through three, I'm going to be reading the new King James Version. I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies as living sacrifices. Holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is good and acceptable and perfect will of God. For I say, through grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith. Tonight's title for the message is transformation into a Kingdom reality. Transformation into a kingdom reality. My wife made some handouts for me. Um, I don't know if you have the photo for Ezekiel chapter forty seven, but I wanted you to have it. If some of you have it, you can look at it. And this is the picture of, uh, where I believe Mark two twenty two is going. And I believe the church with a capital C, because I'm watching the Lord move in many areas of the church. And I'm noticing that some of the things that I'm studying beforehand, the Lord is showing me churches that are discussing and, and meditating on the same topics. And I know that the Lord is moving, so it's not exclusive to the people of Mark two twenty two. In fact, I don't believe that at all. I believe we have a name of a church, but we're all part of a church body. And those who are who are attached to the power of the Holy Spirit to God Himself. God is revealing himself in this way. And so we've been studying Ezekiel forty seven, and I believe this is a visual of what

we're going to study tonight. You see, Ezekiel presented the image and Paul showed us the process. Paul is actually verbally demonstrating what this image is. And so once again, Ezekiel forty seven gives us a visual for tonight's study and for a direction of Mark two twenty two in the capital C church, the temple of living waters, bringing life wherever these waters flow. What I want us to notice in Ezekiel forty seven is the progression of the water. Again, Ezekiel moves from ankle deep to knee deep to waist deep, until finally the waters are deep enough that he can only swim. With each increase in depth, there is a greater measure of surrender and trust. He reaches a point where he's no longer walking through the river, but is completely dependent upon it. That picture gives us a wonderful visual of what Paul explains in Romans chapter twelve, verses one through three. Ezekiel shows us the picture, but Paul shows us the process. Paul begins with surrender, presenting our bodies to God as a living sacrifice. Then he tells us not to be conformed to the patterns of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of our minds. So there's a connection between the increasing depths of Ezekiel's waters and the increasing depth of our surrender to the power of the Holy Spirit. The deeper Ezekiel went, the more he had to trust the river. And as we surrender more deeply to the spirit, he begins to renew our minds and change the way we think. And this is where Ezekiel forty seven gives us the visual for what Paul is describing. As the river deepened, life began to appear all around it. The deeper the water flowed, the greater the evidence of life. In the same way, Romans twelve shows us that the renewed mind produces a transformed life. But Ezekiel also gives us another picture, something we have to be aware of. There were waters that remained stagnant. They were not flowing, and therefore they could not produce the same life. That gives us a picture. In contrast to what Paul established in Romans twelve, a mind that is either being renewed by the spirit or remaining conformed to the patterns of this world. So tonight I want to look to Romans twelve one through three, through the picture of Ezekiel forty seven, surrender, renewal, and transformation. That's what I wrote for myself. I wasn't really going to read it, but I wrote it for myself. And I want you to look at this picture because this picture is a picture of you. I've told you before, you are the temple. Place yourself in the temple that is you. And the presence of God is within you. And as you surrender to the power of the Holy Spirit, as you surrender to God, who is the spirit. The further you journey down the river, mind you, the river is already there. God has placed it before all of you. There are depths you have not reached yet you have not journeyed to. But it is there none the same. And the Lord is saying, once you surrender, I'll take you from one measure of glory to the next, measure of glory to the next measure of glory. And what happens as you surrender? As you surrender, you're going to look around your life and you're only going to see life. All the things that. You'll get a text. That says, I tell my sons about you. So I want you to see this river, this journey of a renewed mind. The more your mind is renewed, the more you transform and the more you transform. There's life. I didn't realize this was going to affect me so much. I'm sorry. So please keep this in your mind as we study tonight. Lord God, I thank you for this word. I thank you, Lord God, that you have blessed this word. And Lord God, I thank you that that you help us to receive it. By the power of your spirit. Lord God, enlighten our minds. Open up our hearts, Lord God. Lord God, transform us by the renewal of our minds. Let us not leave this place thinking the same. Reveal more of yourself, Lord God. Let us see and think and feel and love the way you do. Lord God, let us have the mind of Christ Himself. That is what you want. First, I thank you, Lord, and I praise you. In Jesus name. Amen. Amen. Alright, let me read this again. I

beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is good and acceptable in the perfect will of God. I'm gonna stop there for right now.

Transformation through a renewed mind begins with salvation. That's where it begins. A renewed mind and the transformation of the mind starts when we receive salvation. When a person repents of his or her sins and turns to the Lord. Second Corinthians, chapter three, which we'll dig in a little bit deeper later, says the veil is removed and now they can see the Holy Spirit takes up residence within the believer, beginning the work of changing them from the inside out. What I want you to have is a visual picture. If you remember when the disciples were in the upper room, and they were told that Christ had resurrected, but he had not presented himself yet. He comes to the upper room. They don't even know how he gets in there. And he starts showing him the hands where the nails are and he shows the side. And after they all believe for the first time in the resurrected Savior, not the Savior that they walked around with, but the one who was born again. He breathed the breath of life in them and says, Receive the Holy Spirit. Receive the seed of salvation. This is what's taking place. He is receiving. He is sending the seed of salvation to them. You see it, but this is the beginning because we know it's not the end of discipleship, right? Because if it ended here, that would be it into the Bible. End of the story. We receive the seed. All is good. My question is, if that's not the case, why does it happen at church everywhere? Yeah. The Greek word for repentance is metanoia. We'll go deeper into that later too. Meaning a change of mind or a change in the way we think. We surrender our lives to Christ. We center our lives to God through his grace and mercy. He forgives our sins and gives His Spirit to us. And this is where renewal begins. It begins at salvation. But sadly, this is also where many believers either become stagnant or end their spiritual journey. Salvation was never meant to be the destination. It was always meant to be the beginning. We are not only saved from something, we are saved for something. There is nothing wrong with saying I need to be saved so I don't go to hell. Salvation absolutely delivers us from the consequences of sin and eternal separation from God. But if we are, if our understanding of salvation stops at what we have been saved from rather than what we've been saved into, we can become content with simply being saved without pursuing transformation. Let me say it again. We can become content with simply being saved without ever pursuing transformation. And this is where the picture of Ezekiel comes in Ezekiel into the river. But he did not remain ankle deep. Ankle deep is where it starts. It's where it begins. But there is a spiritual expectation that the seed of Christ, when it's planted in you to move forward, to progress, to transform. This is where I believe the church has got to be repaired and needs to be careful. We become so focused on getting people into the kingdom that we fail to teach them how to live there once they are there. We could celebrate decisions for Christ, but we do it without developing disciples for Christ. Some churches that I've been to, their only focus is salvation. As if that's the entire gospel, as if the gospel ends here. And so you get a regurgitation or repackage of the salvation message every week. And then you want to know why no one's moving because everyone is standing ankle deep. But I want to show you something. You need to recognize something. It doesn't matter how much you spread the waters of ankle deep, because in Ezekiel's vision, life didn't come till there was death. Yeah, You know, it didn't happen in the ankle part. It's when he continued to progress. And this is why

you can go to many churches. And this is why I believe that the Holy Spirit has been grieved a little bit, because we're not paying attention to the power that can transform us and progress us and move us forward. We are so focused on growing the volume and the numbers that we're not concerned about the weight of his glory. Yes. Yes. We're not concerned about the depths. And this is what's taking place. And many churches today. But the Lord is saying, this is the beginning, the ankle deep. Now take the journey. Take the journey because there's something that I have for you. There's something that I purchased for you. You see, I believe when I read Ezekiel chapter forty seven, there's this one little part where it talks about stagnant, marshy type waters. Since everything's going to be healed except the swamp, the marsh that won't be healed. Now, I want you to think about this. Ankle deep has a little bit of water. But if you cut off the power of transformation, if you cut off the Holy Spirit, that ankle deep water that has no movement to it. Everyone knows that stagnant water is where things begin to grow. But flowing water and movement is where life comes into play. And so what happens is when we reduce everything down to simply salvation and don't grow the water. We once had that fire. My wife was talking about begins to dim because we were never meant to sit in ankle deep water. We need to remember very clearly that transformation begins with salvation. But surrender takes us deeper. How should believers view salvation through the lens? Watch this of the already. Not yet. We've talked about this before. We have to change the way we think about being saved. The Greek word soteria. That's the Greek word for salvation, means salvation, deliverance, rescue, preservation, safety. It comes from the word sozo to save, deliver, rescue and make whole. But salvation is more than simply being saved from something. We just said this. I want you to. I want you to recognize this. See yourself this. Many Christians will give their life over because they don't want. They don't want to go to hell. They don't want to be eternally separated to God. But God never said that. He never said that. That I'm saving you just for that. He saves you to join with him. You are actually being saved into something. So by definition, if you're saved into something, it gives the meaning of what you're being saved for greater value. Yes, it means I'm saved for a purpose. When you hire somebody, you may pay them money and that money might save them, but they have to come and work. You hired them for a purpose. You don't just pay them. There's a purpose behind it. And the Lord's purpose for salvation is so that you are with him, joined with him. So now we have a different view of why we were saved and what salvation means. So when we understand I'm saved for something, I start to discover what that for is. We have to understand that salvation through the lens of the already. Not yet. We have been saved. We are still being saved. But let me say it like this. We have been saved, but we are also being transformed. Yeah. Yes. Now, for me, it helped me to understand the Greek words grace and mercy from you people. I bet I have it. When I looked at the process of salvation. Hamartia is the Greek word for sin hamartia, but it means simply to miss the mark. It means when you shot at the target, you missed it. They actually used the same word in archery, you put your best effort forth, but you miss that target. You missed that mark. That's actually the Greek word for sin. So when you think about it, it means about falling short, missing the target. Romans three, chapter twenty three. The new King James Version says, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. That means every single person in this room has missed the mark. Now you see. What's the problem? We. I want to show you something. We have to unlearn some things in order to move forward. See, when we think of sin, we think about, you know, some of the sins that might corrupt somebody,

you know, drugs and alcohol or lust or fornication, or we think about envy and we think about greed and we think about all this. No, no, no, no no, no. The Lord said, sin is every time you fall short. Yeah. And then he said, now all of you do. Now I want you to think about it because he's developing a process here. Hamartia means missing the mark. And if everyone has missed the mark. Then it means we are all. What? Winning. So now if God doesn't weigh one sin or the other. Why are we constantly placing value and comparing. What does Paul say in verse three? Verse three. Romans chapter one, verse three. For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly as God has dealt each one a measure of faith. It's another problem I see in the church today. We're always comparing our journey with the other person. Well, I'm much further than them, and I'm much further than them. News flash you may be much further than somebody else, but you still might be disappointed to where you're supposed to be. Now, I'm not saying disappointing to God. Notice I didn't say that because you never are. But you should want to be further than where you are. You should want to pursue further than where you are. And so take the comparison out of it and self examine because that's what Paul is saying. He's saying all have fallen short. All are sinners. And that's what Hamartia means. Then it says metanoia is the word for repentance. It means to change your mind, to change the way you think. So when you repent, it's not just a confession of the sins of a laundry list. Lord, I'm sorry, I'm sorry, I'm sorry, I'm sorry, I'm sorry when you know you're not really sorry. Because you can't wait to go out the door to do it again. Come on. All I gotta do is hang out at an LSU game with a bunch of Christians. Can't wait. But you see, the reason why we have trouble with repentance is because we think it's just a confession of what we did that's bad. And the Lord is saying, no, no, no. Repentance is to change your mind and your thought process what you thought you should be doing. You should now turn and say, I should not be doing that. My thought process to what I was and what I was doing has now changed. I recognize how I am a sinner, I am always falling short of the mark. And now I recognize I need to repent, which means change from that person and move forward to this person. Then the Lord comes and he says, because of that repentance soteria salvation. And here's where we get in trouble again, church, we gotta unlearn things. We look at it and say, well, I know God's always with me, but we think of salvation. One time thing, you watch us. I got saved in nineteen seventy seven, I got sick. Come on, You are saved and you are being saved. The sins that you repented for in the sixties. Alright, you got, but you got problems in the two thousand. And the Lord is saying, I'm constantly pouring out my grace and mercy that is new every morning. So he says, you are constantly being poured out with the grace of salvation, because it's not just being saved from something, it's for something. As he transforms you and polishes you. He's pouring out preservation. He's making you change into something, right? Paul recognized this more than anyone in Philippians chapter three, verse ten through fourteen. I want you to know Christ. I want to know Christ and experience. And that know is Ginosko remember, we study this to know him in an intimate way as a husband knows a wife. So when he says I, I want to know it's not knowledge. I want you to think about intimacy here. I want you to know Christ and experience the mighty power that raised him from the dead. I want to know him like. Like a husband knows a wife. I want to suffer with him, share in his death, so that one way or another, I will experience the resurrection from the dead. I don't mean to say I have already achieved these things, that I've already reached perfection, but I press on to possess that perfection for

which Christ Jesus first possessed me. No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it. But I focus on this one thing forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead. You guys may know the new King James Version, forgetting those things which are behind me and reaching forward to the things which are ahead of me. I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling me. Paul understood there was more. He was saved. He had an experience with God on the road to Damascus. And he's saying right here, me, Paul, who's writing all these letters, me, Paul, who was called up. I knew a man in the third heaven. Paul had experienced all this. Paul, whose articles of clothing was healing people. He's saying, I haven't achieved it. I haven't gotten there yet. He's saying, but I'm forever pursuing. Does Paul sound like ankle deep? No. Paul's probably swimming in it and he's saying this, this, this, this, this lake that I'm swimming in because Paul's where Paul was, was probably a lake or it's probably a sea. And he was trying to get to an ocean because Paul knew that the depths of the pursuit of God would never be reached. And so you should see a pattern here as the as the prophet Ezekiel is walking and pursuing. As Paul is telling us, there is a pursuit. And yet modern day Christianity teaches us to be stagnant. And yet we're trying to pray for healing. We're trying to pray for deliverance and salvation, but we're trying to do it on ankle deep waters. And the Lord is saying, it's out there. It's available. It's not something I haven't sent yet. It's all right there. It's still the same spirit, but you have to pursue it. The deeper the surrender, the deeper we allow the Holy Spirit to take us. The deeper we go, the more our minds are. Watch this renewed and the more our lives are transformed. See, what happens is as you go deeper, you begin to learn more about who Christ is, he reveals more. The water's depth represents the depth of the Holy Spirit that you're swimming in. The spirit gives us all truth about Christ. The more he reveals to us, the more we know. And now we are transformed from the way we once thought of who God was. This was the entire purpose of Christ coming down not just to die, but to show us what a transformed life is. Once we understand that salvation is not the destination but the beginning of our transformation, we have to ask ourselves, how does transformation takes place? The Greek word for transformation is metamorpho, from which we get the word metamorphosis, and it carries the idea of continual change. We are not meant to remain the same in Christ. We are being changed into his very image. Romans twelve two tells us that his transformation takes place through the renewing of our mind. Watch. It says, be transformed by something. Do not conform to the ways of this world, but rather transform. Be transformed, but be transformed by this way by the renewal of your mind. So he's telling you the key of getting deeper. He's telling you the key of transformation and your transformation will produce life. But he's giving you the answers of what Ezekiel saw. Romans twelve two when it says renewed mind. The Greek word is analysis. Anakinra anakinra. It means to make new. To make new. Now I want to show you something. Hamartia sin means missing the mark. Metanoia repent means to change the way I'm doing things. So I start to hit the mark, see it. So to read it, the Lord says, I'll help you hit the mark and I'll give you the power you need to be saved so you can hit the mark. That is the pneuma, which is the spirit, the breath of God. Then when you surrender to the spirit, the breath of God, you experience an gnosis, which means you are made new. And when you are made new, you are now transforming. Is this starting to make sense now? Now watch this. If I'm in a perpetual state of missing the mark, then that means I'm in somewhat of a perpetual state of sin, which means I have to have a perpetual state of repentance to change the way I

think. If I need a perpetual state of the way, I think I need a perpetual state of his grace and mercy that gives me the power to be saved, which is the Holy Spirit. When I yield to that pneuma, that breath, that spirit, it begins to change the way I think. Now I'm hitting the mark and I become transformed. Yes. Yes. Do you see it? Yes. Now, sadly. Watch what happens. I'm missing the mark. I go to church and repent. They tell me I'm good and it stops there. I have not reached transformation. My transformation took a turn somewhere and moved. You see, because these people said, if I follow these processes and these programs, if I if I do this, if I gain more knowledge, I'll begin to transform. But then there's a lack of success and people say, what's happening? And they don't realize that they're dwelling in stagnant waters. It was once ankle deep. They were once on fire, but they're no longer in fire because the water's not moving. It's not progressing. They're not progressing in the power of the spirit. And when there's no progression and no movement water, then there's no life and there's no life. Everything begins to decay and it begins to die. And you begin to look and say, where's the fire that I once had? And everything becomes mundane. It becomes routine. AM I talking to somebody in here? Have you experienced this in church before? And you're wondering, where's the healing? Where's the deliverance? And you feel like you're going through the motions and the Lord is saying, it's still there. It's still available, but you got to yield. Yeah, you got to yield. Now Paul tells us how to yield. He tells us how to transform. We talked about it. It's the pneuma. It's the spirit. It's the breath of God. He tells us to yield to that spirit. He starts off in Romans twelve one, I beseech you. I plead to you. Now look at Paul saying this. Now watch this. This is what's really, really you gotta you gotta dig deep. You gotta understand what you're reading. Every word matters in the Bible. I beseech you, therefore, who are those believers? Come on. Is he pleading with nonbelievers? So that means the same problem we might have in church today of stagnant waters and people not moving. It's the same problem he probably had back then because he's beseeching. He's pleading with brethren, I plead with you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to not sit still. To not sit in ankle deep, but to progress, to progress in your Christian walk. And I'm not just asking. I'm begging you because I've been caught up. I've seen the power. I know what God can do. And I'm not special. He can do it in your life. But you gotta move forward. This is what Paul is saying. And then Paul says it almost all his life. Watch this. Romans eight five for those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the spirit, the things of the spirit. In Romans eight fourteen, for as many are led by the Spirit of God, these are the sons of God. What are you going to catch a pattern here in Galatians five sixteen? It goes, every church. It doesn't matter, I say, then walk in the spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. He's saying, it's the spirit that kills the flesh. It's the spirit. It's the spirit. He's going to get a constant message from him. For the flesh lusts against the spirit and the spirit against the flesh. And these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do things that you wish. But if you were led by the spirit, you are not under the law. Now watch Galatians five, verse twenty five. If we live in the spirit, let us also walk in the spirit. All these spirit. He's constantly telling him, yield to the spirit, yield to the spirit, yield to the spirit. I'm going to tell you something. We have a problem with that, though. And we have to unlearn some things. See, even even myself when I'm saying it, the power of the Holy Spirit. No no no no. When will we accept that the Holy Spirit is God? Yeah. No no no. Really, really, really, truly understand that He is God. You see, we like to say God the Father, God the Son, God the spirit. But watch that spirit. Watch it. Don't

move in church because you can be in error. So you're telling me that God's going to put us in error? Oh, but that's what you're saying, right? See? Watch your words. Watch your words. You see, they want me to fear. And I watch what they say. And I'm like frightened to say that. I'm like, why are you not scared saying that? Because if you yield, truly yield to the power of the Holy Spirit, you are yielding to God. Yes. Why would he ever lead you astray? And so we have to understand what is taking place here. Paul says it again in second Corinthians chapter three, verses sixteen through eighteen. I told you, we come back. This is one of our foundational scriptures. But whenever someone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. For the Lord is a spirit. He is telling you, for the Lord is the Holy Spirit. God the Father, God the Son, God the spirit. They're in such unison that you can't tell them apart. Watch. For the Lord is a spirit. And wherever the spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. I love what some of the pastors have begun to say. Whether the spirit of the Lord is Lord, there is freedom when you make him Lord, put that surrender part in it. So all of us who have been, have had the veil removed, can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord, who is the spirit, once again makes us more and more like him. As we are changed into his glorious. You are changed. You are transformed. There's something happening to you and that doesn't happen in ankle deep. It happens in the progression process of being transformed. As you surrender, as you surrender. Now bring it back once again to Ezekiel chapter forty seven. The waters move from ankle deep to knee deep to waist deep, until they become waters that can only be crossed by swimming. And wherever the river goes, life follows the surrendering to Ezekiel, surrendering to the deeper depths of the water. Watch. But then Jesus comes along in John chapter seven, and he declares that rivers of living water, the river that you see in the image, will flow within those who come and drink of him. John tells us that Jesus was speaking of what the Holy Spirit. I will give you living waters, rivers of living waters if you come and take a drink. Now see the visual of Ezekiel and the vision that he was having. Ezekiel is progressing into deeper depths and he's saying, one day, one day, all of humanity is going to have this available to them. They're going to be able to have the presence of God where the river flows. And the more they surrender, the more that's going to pour out and the more that's going to pour out, it's going to get deeper. and the measure of God's glory within him is going to start to heal everything and all around him, because it's not them who live anymore. It's Christ who lives within sight of them. Too often the Holy Spirit has been reduced to simply be in the power of God with his miraculous activity, treated as though it belonged primarily to the apostolic age. But the Holy Spirit is not merely the power of God. The Holy Spirit is God. He's not an impersonal force or simply an experience. He is a person, the third person of the Godhead. The spirit testifies of Jesus. Jesus does nothing that the father did not tell him or say to do. And then the father is manifested through the son, back through the spirit. They're so intertwined. Do you see it? You know what? I listen to people and they say the miraculous gifts and all the all, all, all the healings and all that stuff that was for the apostolic age because they needed it now. Wait a minute. That baffles me because if Christ is rising up in me and I'm becoming more and more like Christ than what you're saying is, the Christ within me is a diminished version of the one that walked the earth, right? So what you're saying is I don't have available the same what? Christ. Or are you saying that Christ can't do what he once did? Think about some of the theology that's been Developed in the church, even if not intentionally. And it's being developed by. I heard one pastor say, we blame it on sovereignty, the sovereignty of God, as if

God didn't write everything that he said he was going to do. In the Bible. Sovereignty of God is written in the word. It's amazing how they say, read the word. And when you read the word, you tell them the word. They don't read it. They make up something else convenient. Theology is what I call it. But the renewed mind looks like something else. The renewed mind creates a kingdom mindset. Simply put, the renewed mind is a mind that sees, thinks, and reasons like Jesus. By completely surrendering to the power of the Holy Spirit. Let me say it again. The renewed mind is a mind that sees, thinks and reasons like Jesus by simply by completely surrendering to the power of the Holy Spirit. It is a person who abides in Christ, living fully surrendered to the will of God. The renewed mind is not simply about changing the way we think. It is allowing the Holy Spirit to transform the way we see, perceive, respond, and make decisions until our thoughts begin to reflect the thoughts of Jesus Christ. It's when you think like Jesus, speak like Jesus, love like Jesus, hope like Jesus, everything. That's when you start to realize, I'm getting somewhere. And Paul did it, and he said, I still ain't there yet. Christ was the model. Christ modeled this throughout his three and a half years of ministry, not only through his miraculous works, but through his willingness to step out of his divinity and into humanity. We often hear that Jesus was completely God and completely human at the same time. But what does this mean for us? It means he chose to model the way by which we become like him. He did not simply come to earth to use his divine power to accomplish his will. Instead, he lived a genuinely human life and relied. Watch this on his relationship with the father through the Holy Spirit. I'll prove it to you. When Jesus was talking to Nicodemus. You can read this in John chapter three, verses ten through thirteen. Jesus answered and said to him, are you the teacher of Israel? And do and do not know these things? So he's telling Nicodemus, you don't know these things. You're a teacher of Israel, and you don't get it. Most assuredly, I say to you, we speak what we know. I love his use of. We. Jesus said what we know because he never speaks for himself. We we speak for what we know and testify and what we have seen, what we have seen. And you do not receive our witness. She's telling Nicodemus, you don't get it. If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things? Nicodemus wasn't there. He's showing a contrast here. No one has ascended to heaven but he who came down from heaven, Jesus, that is the Son of Man. Watch this. Who is in heaven? Jesus is saying is, although I'm sitting right here with you, Nicodemus, my mind, my heart, my soul, my spirit is here. Now you have a definition of thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Jesus walked around with a kingdom mindset on everything that he saw. That's why when he brought the woman in adultery, he did not condemn her. He said, those without sin throw the first stone because he saw her from a kingdom mindset. When he saw blind people, he didn't see the impossibility of healing. He saw them from a kingdom mindset. He saw everything from a kingdom mindset. And the kingdom mindset says something. It says that God wants to heal. God wants to love. God wants to deliver. That's why he told the disciples, if you see me, you should see the father. You can't see the father yet. You should see the father. You should see me. You should see. Because what I'm doing right now is really the heart of God. He's not a condemning God. He's a loving God. He's a God that wants to save and deliver. This is what the church has got to get back to. And now I'm gonna finish with this. That is your inheritance. Did you get this? It belongs to every one of you. Watch this. Psalms one nineteen one eleven says, your testimonies are my heritage. Forever. Forever. Your testimonies are my. I inherit your

testimonies. That means everything that Christ did I inherit. Every power he had, I inherit. Not because I become co-equal with Christ, but because I crucify myself and I become like Christ. Because it's Christ within me. So now you see, when people say the gifts and the power are gone, you can't say that because it's not me putting my hands on somebody with power and gifts. It's Christ within me and the same power that Christ had then is the same power he has right now. And that's what we have to believe. And we've gotta get back to it as a church. We've gotta get back to it. Jesus actually said this in John chapter ten, verse thirty seven thirty eight, if I do not do the works of my father, then don't believe me. He said, but if I do at least believe the miracles and the signs and the couple. So you're telling me that Jesus is supposed to live in. You can't do the same works. When Jesus said, at least believe this, I heard a pastor say it like this. He said, this was the same Jesus that all the prophets pronounced was coming. This is the same Jesus where a star pointed where he was being born? This is the same Jesus where his mother and father had had an angel come and talk and said, you're having him. This is the same Jesus where all the wise men came. It's the same Jesus that the greatest prophet that ever lived. The Bible says, John the Baptist said, I'm paving the way. And Jesus said, don't believe me because of that. He said, believe me, because of the works I've done with the father. Now, do you see the danger of diminishing the works?

Speaker 2 Yes. That's true.

Kevin Diggs We cannot consistently live beyond what we are willing to believe if we cannot believe what we have not allowed the spirit to reveal. Let me say it again. We cannot consistently live beyond what we're willing to believe. If we cannot believe what we have not allowed the spirit to reveal. Christ has not changed. The spirit has not changed. The kingdom has not changed. What must change is us. And it doesn't happen in ankle deep water. And it doesn't happen with a watered down version of salvation. It's telling people now you're here. Now it's time to begin. He's the author and the perfecter of my faith. And this is what Paul's life pursuit was. He pursued that perfection, not by works. That's not what I'm saying. Not by great effort, but by giving it all up. Surrender. Give em your job. Give him your kids. Give him your family. Give him your finances. Give them your fears and your doubts and your anxiety and your anxiousness. Give it all to them. Give them your concerns. Give them your understanding so he can trade it in for peace. Give it to him. That's the call of Christianity. As our minds are renewed and as we surrender to the spirit, and as we learn to see from kingdom reality with the eyes of Jesus, with the heart of Jesus, we become increasingly available to do the works of Christ because the rivers flow through us. And now this brings us full circle to Ezekiel forty seven. The river flows, and wherever the river goes, life is restored. We are like trees. Planted beside living waters. When I read this, I see how good he is. It is amazing how good he is. Trees planted by living waters. Our leaves are for healing and our fruit is for nourishment. The river flows from God, the presence through us and into the world around us. The deeper we go, the more life the river touches. That is the picture of transformation. That's the kingdom reality. And that is the inheritance of the people who have been saved, renewed, transformed, and surrendered to the power of the Holy Spirit. Would you stand? I want you all to hear my heart on something here. Sometimes when I'm teaching, I know it feels that I'm hard on a church, but it's not the church and it's not the people. I hate the enemy. I hate what the enemy has done. I hate what the enemy tries to make us think. I'm

beginning to see what Paul said, that it's not I who sinned, but it's the sinful nature inside of me. I'm beginning to be able to separate this from everyone. And when you begin to look at it with those types of eyes, there's revelation that will come to your spirit. You'll start to see people differently. You're going to start loving when you didn't even think you had any love left. I realize now I got plenty of love. Love for those who maybe don't love me right now. And that's okay. Because when they found out how much I love them, they're going to realize that's a lot of love. Because I believe every word. Every word that's written in this book. God is doing something not only here, but he's restoring his church. But I'm here to tell you it's going to take a greater level of surrender. And I really believe this. You're going to have to trade in some of your knowledge. You're going to have to trade in what you once thought you knew about God. No, no no, no. Let me say it again. You're going to have to trade in thirty years of hearing the same thing. Because I hear the Lord saying, why have you restricted me to the same thing for thirty years when my depths are so deep? But I believe we have a people here who is ready to surrender, and it won't be long before it won't be the leaders of this church laying hands on people. You're going to be walking through a grocery store and somebody's not going to bend over wrong or something. Can I lay my hands on you? We're going to fix that spinal cord real quick. You're going to walk into a room with confusion and anger and doubt and fear. And when you walk in, clarity is going to come because you're bringing life into something that's dead. But I'm here to encourage you. Hear me on this. It's time for greater levels of surrender. Don't pick up your phone. Get in your prayer closet. If you got available time, check and see how much of that available time you're given to him. Talk to him. Be with him because he's got so much to say. Do not conform to the ways of this world. Rather be transformed to a kingdom reality, a kingdom mindset, to a Jesus like mindset where you see like Jesus, love like Jesus, pray like Jesus. You do everything. Like Jesus says. He's saying, transform into that mind by being renewed through the Holy Spirit. I want to give you this opportunity. There were many times in the book of acts where people were renewed. They were filled again and they were filled again. They were filled again. And I'm not talking about chasing a feeling or a moment. That's not what I'm talking about. But there's a lot of feeling in the Bible. What do we say on Thursday? The kingdom of heaven is not food or drink, but it's righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Ghost and the Holy Spirit. And I, last time I checked, peace and joy are feelings they feel. So we see what we gotta watch. What we say. Gotta watch what we say. We're creating doctrine. When you love, don't you feel. If you feel like you need a another pouring out.

Kevin Diggs If you feel like you want to be prayed for just for a little bit more restoration. And I'm not talking about more of the spirit. I'm talking about praying that you surrender more to what's already available, that you could come down right now. Come on.