

## Sunday Service Sermons

15 August 2021

The Secret to Renewal

As far as I am concerned the secret to anything is you wanting to.

If the desire is great enough the accomplishment comes.

I doubt if Kathy would have known I was at La Verne College if I had not determined to spend the rest of my life in her company.

But I was twiterpated the first time I saw her.

And I spent my first year, her second year, getting acquainted with her.

The point being I was determined to have her as my help-mate.

And I did what was necessary to get her to spend time with me.

As friends for the first year then the friend-ship developed from there.

Are you willing to do what is necessary to promote the Kingdom of God on earth?

Are you asking God to transform you by the resetting of your thinking.

The renewing of your mind is the resetting of your thinking.

How does our minds get renewed and reset?

“Yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God” *Romans 6:13*.

That word yield is most important.

Give the control of your life over to God and allow Him to make you what He has in mind for you.

His burden is light and the yoke sits easy on your shoulders.

It is said that Spiritual renewal is the answer for the church today.

It is God’s will for the church to be renewed and transformed; it is not God’s will for the church to be shaped by the mold of the world.

It is God’s will that the church be renewed to ministry, renewed in faith and a disciplined life.

It is also his will that the church be renewed to witnessing, and this happens only as it experiences the renewing of the Holy Spirit.

Renewal involves two steps.

First: Yield yourself to God.

The key word to spiritual renewal in the Christian life is “yield”.

It is the same word translated “present” in *Romans 12:1*.

It is also the word that is used to describe the presenting of an offering in the sacrificial system in the temple.

The worshiper presented or yielded his sacrifice to the priest to be offered.

It is an act of worship whereby we personally acknowledge that we belong to God.

This act is the secret of renewal of life.

There are three things about this act you need to know.

It is a realistic act.

In the Christian life it is just as real as the decision to accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

It is a definite act.

In *Romans 6:13* the second use of the word “yield” is in the aorist tense of the Greek language.

The verse may read, “Do not go on yielding your members at sin’s disposal, but once for all decisively yield yourselves to God.”

There must be a time in your life when you present yourself to God and from then on consider your whole life to belong to him.

It is a transfer of your life to God.

Your life is no longer your own, but his.

It is an act of the will as well as an act of obedience. It is a reasonable act.

This is what *Romans 12:1* indicates: "Present your bodies a living sacrifice . . . which is your reasonable service."

It is reasonable if we want to have victory.

The believer in Christ has a dual nature, while the lost person has only one nature, "the old man."

Something happens when a person is born again.

New life comes in, divine life, Christ's life, in the person of the Holy Spirit.

The new believer now has a new nature.

The old nature, the self-life, is dealt with by Christ's death, but it is not evicted from our lives.

As believers we now have a dual nature, a higher nature and a lower nature, an old life and a new life, the flesh and the Spirit, the self-life and the Christ-life.

These are enemies, and they struggle for full control of one's life.

Believers have the choice as to which to yield themselves.

How we choose is the secret to victory.

It is a resisted act.

The flesh resists the Holy Spirit.

The resistance masses itself at some point in your life so that surrender becomes the key to victory.

What is it that stands between you and renewal?

Must some cherished idol in your life be yielded to God if victory is to come?

Nothing will substitute for the act of yielding yourself to God.

This is the secret to spiritual power in our lives.

Jesus must be Lord of our lives!

Second: Yield your members to God.

The word "members" refers to the parts of one's body, thus the areas of our lives.

These members are "weapons" either for righteousness or sin, for God or Satan.

We are to yield ourselves and our members to God.

This makes *Romans 12:1* clearer when it says, "Present your bodies."

Your body is important.

Present it to God.

Yield your eyes to God.

Your eyes control what you see and what you read.

Make a covenant regarding your eyes.

Yield your ears to God.

Your ears control what you hear.

Be discerning about what you hear.

Yield your mouth to God.

What you say and how you say it are important.

*Colossians 4:6* says, "Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt".

Yield your mind to God.

Let your thoughts and attitudes be formed by God's Word.

Yield your hands to God.

Let him govern what you do and how you work, your actions and your service to others.

Yield your feet to God.

Go to the places God would have you to go, but walk away from places that would be detrimental to your spiritual or physical life.

Yield your knees to God.

Kneel in prayer before God regularly.

Yield your lungs to God.

Yielding your lungs means abstaining from putting anything in your lungs that would inhibit their function.

Yield your stomach to God.

Gluttony is displeasing to God.

Yield your face to God.

Your countenance should reflect the light of Christ who lives within you.

You can look at a person's face and determine his or her character qualities.

Do you smile or frown?

Are you serving others, or are you expecting others to serve you?

This is the secret then.

Yield yourself and your members to God.

Build an altar and place yourself and the areas of your life before God.

He promises you victory and renewal as you do!

Faith is the victory that overcomes the world!!

Encamped along the hills of light, Ye Christian soldiers rise, and press the battle ere the night shall veil the glowing skies.

Against the foe in vales below let all our strength be hurled, faith is the victory, we know, that overcomes the world.

Faith is the victory, faith is the victory, O, glorious victory that over comes the world.

His banner over us is love, our sword the Word of God; We tread the road the saints above with shouts of triumph trod. By faith like a whirlwind's breath swept on over every field, the faith by which they conquered death is still our shining shield.

On every hand the foe we find drawn up in dread array; let tents of ease be left behind and onward to the fray; Salvation's helmet on each head, with truth all girt about, the earth shall tremble 'neath our tread, and echo with our shout.

To him that overcomes the foe, white raiment shall be given; before the angels he shall know His name confessed in heaven; Then onward from the hills of light, our hearts with love a flame; we'll vanquish all the hosts of night, In Jesus' conquering name.

Faith is the victory! Faith is the victory! O, glorious victory, that overcomes the world.

So let it be believed, so let it be lived!