



# CONFORMED OR TRANSFORMED

DISCERNING THE TIMES AS WE FOLLOW JESUS

## Conformed or Transformed, Part 2: Discerning the Times as We Follow Jesus

Pastor Jim Supp | Reston Bible Church | February 16, 2020

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Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. **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. *Romans 12:1-2*

**23** Then he said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must **deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.** **24** For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it. *Luke 9:23-24*

1. Deny yourself
2. Take up your cross (submit to Jesus)
3. Follow Him

**The World has shaped:**

***1. My Expectations of What Jesus Should Do for Me.***

**CHALLENGE** – Choose to see your difficulties as God shaping you not punishing or holding out on you.

**The World has shaped:**

***2. My Inability to Quiet my Inner Self.***

**CHALLENGE** – Take the first 45 minutes of the day and the last 45 minutes of the day without your phone.

**CHALLENGE** - Spend 15 minutes with God – worship song, read scripture, worship through prayers of thanks, make your requests.

**The World has shaped:**

***3. A Pace of Life that I Can't Maintain***

**CHALLENGE** – Discern ways you can cut back.

**The World has shaped:**

***4. My Focus on Me Over We***

**CHALLENGE** – Lay down your life for someone this week – maybe someone you don't like or who is unkind to you.

**The World has shaped:**

***5. My Over-Connection to Virtual Friends and Less Connection in Real Relationships***

**CHALLENGE** – Determine to deepen friendships.

**The World has shaped:**

***6. My Perspective on Men and Women***

**CHALLENGE** – Men are to reject passivity and initiate with care, and women are to empower and bring life to those around them.