

Donna's Devotional

Patterns of the Mind

*And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.
—Romans 12:2*

When teaching reading, I explain that the brain seeks patterns. What is the connection between Romans 12:2 and a brain that seeks patterns? If our brain is looking for patterns, as a Christian, we find a pattern for life in the Word of God. Yet this is not the natural pattern for sinful man. Man naturally conforms to the pattern of the world.

Just like a student who I am teaching to read finds it difficult to change wrong reading habits, it is difficult for Christians to change wrong patterns in their lives. It is hard work to transform habits because they have become automatic. As Christians we often find the habits of our lives match the pattern of the world. It is difficult to transform those habits, but the Bible tells us how that can be done. Our lives (governed by worldly patterns) will be transformed as our minds are renewed. I desire God to change the patterns of the world in my life and renew my mind with the pattern of Christ.

In Philippians 2:5 we are instructed to “Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus.” As we allow God to direct our thought patterns through the reading and hearing of His Word, we will be transformed to the pattern of Christ.