



Church of Christ

November 16, 2003

204 Dix Road Jefferson City, MO 65109

Heart to Heart...

“See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ.” (Col. 2:8) How many times have we read this? There is a danger of something or someone taking us captive. We need to stop listening to the ideas of philosophy and empty deception and do things according to Christ.

There was a big push in the religious world using four letters and a question mark. It looked like this: **WWJD?** It stands for, “What would Jesus do?” It came from a book written by a fellow named Sheldon titled, “*In His Steps*.” When we encounter difficult situations, we don’t need to think about WWJD! The real answer is found in “What does Jesus think?” One can’t act if they don’t know what Jesus’ thinks. Paul reminded the Romans by saying, “And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.” (Rom. 12:2) The mind has to be renewed to think like God and Christ. Without that, we conform to the world! We must start looking at things through the eyes of God rather than what someone thinks up as religious. If we think WWJD, what if our perception of Jesus is wrong? He becomes reduced to whatever is in the eye of the beholder. (That’s why it’s called empty deception!) I don’t mean this as offensive. I’m trying to show us how easily we get caught up in someone’s idea and we start using it as our means of handling situations. In reality, it becomes a fad or gimmick at best.

Jesus revealed to His own apostles, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.” (John 14:6) Jesus is not found in some “*tea table*” book or slogan. He is the only way, the only revealer of the truth and the only way one can approach God. Paul reminded the church at Ephesus, “As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming; but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him, who is the head, even Christ.” (Eph. 4:14-15)

To renew our minds to think like God is the only thing that will bring about a transformation for us to be shaped into the image of His Son. He is Lord and Savior and we need to think like He thinks so He can mold us into a different person and image. Think about it!!!

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