



## The Deep End wk7: Changed for Good

**Introduction:** One of the problems that we often have with scripture is that we treat it as a text book. We read it for information or to gain knowledge, but we don't let it change us. Paul teaches us that not only is transformation the point of scripture, it is the heart of what God is doing in the salvation?

### Discussion Questions

1. Can you think of something that was “transformational” for you? Was it an experience or a process or something else?
2. Read **Romans 12:1-2** The popular self-help ideas usually focus on mind or body. Here Paul talks about both. What does he mean when he says not to conform to the pattern of this world? How does “behavior modification” fit into being renewed?
3. Read **Philippians 4:8** What is the importance of thinking about these things? How can you control what you think? Is that simply a mind game or something deeper?
4. Read **Romans 12:5** In this section, Paul is going to talk about each of us exercising our gifts for the good of the body. How is using your gifts an example of loving well? Do you know how you are gifted/are you using those gifts?
5. Read Romans 13:9-10 This verse ties the end of chapter 12 up to the middle of 13. How does submission to authorities (verses to start chapter 13) look like love? If you are right about something, but not operating in love-what does that make you?
6. If a healthy church is a witness to the world of God's plan for uniting people to Him and each other, how do you know if a church is healthy? What can you do to either keep a church healthy or improve it's health?

**Shaping Your Mind** – *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 12:2*

**Moving Forward** – Have you been changed for good?