

Subconscious ‘Old Man’ Programming

Christian Marriage is an important ministry method the Lord uses to illustrate His love for His creatures. When a Christian husband/wife reach maturity, surrender their hearts fully to the Lord & live out their assigned roles, their relationship forms the image of Christ and the church.

1. Stresses: These are listed in order from the simple to complex, the easy to difficult & how they are experienced in life.

- a. Stress of daily adversities of life in the devil’s world – finances, health, children
- b. Stress of combining of personalities into one home – compatibility issues
- c. Stress of combining different home traditions and lifestyles
- d. Stress of subconscious programming – habituated beliefs & defense mechanisms**
- e. Stress of being the object of the spiritual conflict between God & evil ones.

2. Starting with a blank slate at birth, everyone develops beliefs that help the person to understand their world and to develop strategies to survive and find happiness.

- a. Unbeliever is unable to understand spiritual ideas & can only develop an ‘Old Man’ belief system
- b. Believer develops an ‘Old Man’ belief system before salvation, under sp. death but having received God, The Holy Spirit, he/she is able to know & believe doctrine to form the ‘New Man’ belief system.
- c. Old Sin Nature + Old Man Belief System is the source of temptation & opposes God, The Holy Spirit + New Man Belief System Gal 5:16-17

3. Stages of Development – forming a belief system

- a. Ages 0-2 brephos, nepios - survival instincts + temperament – no ideas or knowledge
 - Develop motor skills & general impressions about life – ruled by emotion
- b. Ages 2-6 pais – developing vocabulary & learning definitions – concrete thinking only
 - **Egocentricity** causes child to form ideas with “me” at center & serving me as the objective
- c. Ages 6-12 teknon – child in formal training; rapid expansion of factual knowledge
 - Egocentricity less; relational goals & skills; ideas about causing others to meet needs
- d. Ages 12-Adult – intangible logic forms; begin considering the world, philosophies of life.

Born sp. dead, separated from God & unable to understand divine logic, all of our initial ideas (OM) come from parents, friends, world & they are all developed for the purpose of serving self.

4. Mechanics of Forming a Belief System

- a. Ideas considered by the mind to arrive at understanding - X
- b. New idea is evaluated, comparing it with existing ideas that we have previously believed
- c. If new idea fits with existing ideas, we will likely believe it as true – we naturally assume that all the ideas we have accepted by faith are true – only because we believe it to be.
- d. Once believed the new idea is transferred to the heart & assimilated into the system of existing ideas to be used as the situation requires.
- e. Once assimilated, the idea is used to negotiate life and over time becomes habituated
- f. Habituation causes ideas to become automatic thinking, flowing with our stream of consciousness and made available under appropriate circumstances

5. Forming the Subconscious

- a. Ideas believed, assimilated & used to point of habituation function automatically
- b. Once ideas become automatic, we don't actually think much before choosing to use it
- c. God designed heart for these ideas to operate as needed w/out deep conscious thought
- d. As we become less/less aware of thoughts in action, they operate beneath the surface
- e. Subconscious is simply the layers/layers of ideas operating automatically – auto pilot
- f. Defense mechanisms: the mind can/will distort reality – truth to keep from being emotionally overwhelmed.

6. Every believer possesses 2 belief systems that are in opposition to the other

- a. 'Old Man' belief system – “me centered” self-serving, worldly, often sinful – always hurts others
- b. 'New Man' belief system – Christ centered, God serving, other serving – always edifies others
- c. 'Old Man' belief system is carried into the Christian Way of Life where it competes with 'New Man' belief system to be used to succeed
- d. Question: how do we deal 'Old Man' destructive effects & rid ourselves of it?

7. Transformation: Removing 'Old Man' beliefs & Replacing them with 'New Man' beliefs.

- a. Theory 1: Inhale truth, confess/Old Sin Nature, do your “best” ignore any idea of 'Old Man' beliefs
- b. Theory 2: Inhale truth, confess/ Old Sin Nature, focus on Christ causing 'Old Man' to be suppressed
 - Individual truths in a tool box to be pulled out & used as needed
 - Any taking off 'Old Man' is done passively as we continue to fix our eyes on Jesus
- c. Theory 3: Inhale truth, confess/ Old Sin Nature, actively confront & remove 'Old Man' ideas, replace with 'New Man' ideas, habituate 'New Man' ideas into subconscious where become automatic thinking

The answer to which, if any of these approaches is right will be determined by the bible.

- Rom 12:2 **stop being conformed** – be transformed;
- Rom 13:12 **take off** deeds of darkness
- Eph 4:22-24 **take off** – be renewed – put on;
- Phi 3:13 **letting go** of the past – straining to
- Col 3:9-10 **taken off** 'Old Man' – put on 'New Man';
- Heb 12:1 **lay aside** encumbrances & sin easily entangles
- Jam 1:21 **taking off** all wickedness;
- 1Pt 2:2 **putting off** malice, guile, hypocrisy...
- 2Cor 7:1 **cleanse** – perfecting holiness

The bible knows nothing of a passive approach to sin & evil residing in the bel's soul

- Every one of these verbs to take off is in the middle voice & is reflexive, meaning that the subject acts upon himself for his own advantage.
- God, The Holy Spirit reveals a specific false idea carried over in the 'Old Man' belief system that He wants us to remove
- We must confront this false idea, refuse to believe it ever again, telling it to go from us

8. Erasing 'Old Man' ideas frees us from the compulsive reaction of automatic thinking therefore freeing our mate from having to live with our selfish, hurtful 'Old Man' functions.

- Gal 6:1 – it was for freedom that Christ set us free.

9. Replacing 'Old Man' ideas with 'New Man' ideas gives us capacity for love – edify our loved ones.