

New Covenant Church of Atlanta

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Time of preparation : On your mark, get set, and grow!

We received the word of the Lord that we are in a time of Devine turnaround. Prophet Zoila released this word on 8/16. A turnaround is a time of transition.

1. Turnaround is a time of transition

Transition : the process or a period of changing from one state or condition to another.

2. Transition is a time of preparation

Prepare a: to make ready beforehand for some purpose, use, or activity

b: to put in a proper state of mind <is prepared to listen

How many can testify that when change or transition occurs God is aligning and preparing us step into our purpose in which he has called us to?

During this season the Lord is wanting us to prepare our hearts and our minds that we may move victorious in in the season ahead.

How many people have a prophetic word they are waiting to see come to pass. How are you preparing for it? Are you preparing you hearts and mind. Are you guarding over your prophetic words! Are you standing on the promises of God?

Guard your Word- The enemy is interested in stealing those things that God has spoken over you. Wage war against the enemy's plans to stop your Word. Any time he tries to tell you "you'll never have, you'll never be, you'll never do" pull out your Word and remind yourself what God is saying about you. Attach God's promises to your Word because His Word always accomplishes what it sets out to do...always. Also, be careful with whom you share your Word. Favor from God can oftentimes arouse just as much jealousy as encouragement. Keep. Your Word close to your heart and only share it with those you know will help you war with it as well.

The 1st step in preparation of our heart and mind is repentance.

Ps. 66:18

Unconfessed sin will cancel your prayer.

- Sin isn't always action, it can be attitude, a mindset.

“If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened; but God has surely listened and has heard my prayer. Praise be to God, who has not rejected my prayer or withheld his love from me!”

Such as a man thinks in his heart so he is. Our heart is connected to thoughts, our mind.

Do you know that the word repent means to change your mind?

Acts 3:19 AMP

“So repent (change your mind and purpose); turn around and return [to God], that your sins may be erased (blotted out, wiped clean), that times of refreshing (of recovering from the effects of heat, of reviving with fresh air) may come from the presence of the Lord;”

Pastor how do I change my mind? --- Eat the word of God. Renew your mind with the word. I do that Pastor, but the way I think is just my personality. I'm a glass half empty type of person. I'm not one of those glass half full people. I'm just keeping it real.

I'm going to put on my Psychology cap on for a min and talk about two types of mind sets a fixed mindset and a growth mindset.

First let me define mindset. **Simply put, a mindset is a set of ideas and attitudes that shape the way someone thinks about themselves and the world. Someone's mindset will determine the way they behave, their outlook on life and their attitude towards everything that's going on around them.**

“The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are healthy, your whole body will be full of light.”

Matthew 6:22 NIV

The eye is our perception

The kind of mindset you have can really shift the way you approach your everyday life. And the good news is, your mindset is not set in stone; there are things that you can do shift your mindset so that you're getting the most out of it.

Luke 21:14-15

“But make up your mind not to worry beforehand how you will defend yourselves. For I will give you words and wisdom that none of your adversaries will be able to resist or contradict.”

Someone with a growth mindset is likely to:

- Be keen as a bean to learn from the people around them
- Understand that in order to get what they want and where they are going. They've got to put work in it.
- Recognize that failure is an opportunity to learn
- Be aware of their weaknesses, and focused on improving them
- Welcome challenges
- Be open to new things and new ways of learning

The flip side of that is a fixed mindset. Someone with a fixed mindset is likely to:

- Avoid challenges where they think they might mess up
- Not deal very well with setbacks (Hagar)
- Try to hide their mistakes
- Be convinced that their abilities are limited to one area.

For example, believing that they're a 'creative' type or

An 'athletic' type etc.

- Practice negative self-talk by saying things like "I can't"

Example of a fixed mindset

Genesis 18:9-15

- "Where is your wife Sarah?" they asked him. "There, in the tent," he said. Then one of them said, "I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife will have a son." Now Sarah was listening at the entrance to the tent, which was behind him. Abraham and Sarah were already very old, and Sarah was past the age of childbearing. So Sarah laughed to herself as she thought, "After I am worn out and my lord is old, will I now have this pleasure?" Then the Lord said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Will I really have a child, now that I am old?' Is anything too hard for the Lord? I will return to you at the appointed time next year, and Sarah will have a son." "Sarah was afraid, so she lied and said, "I did not laugh." But he said, "Yes, you did laugh.""

Example of a growth mindset

Luke 1:30-38

"But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his

kingdom will never end.” “How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?” The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. For no word from God will ever fail.””

“I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May your word to me be fulfilled.” Then the angel left her.”

Mary pondered on these things in her heart.

How to get a growth mindset?

So, it’s clear that growth mindsets are really important for learning new things, embracing new challenges and dealing with setbacks.

Tips for turning a fixed mindset into a growth mindset:

- I can’t do it...yet. The way we talk to ourselves in our mind (our self-talk) has a really big impact on what we actually achieve. If you tell yourself that you can do it, chances are that you will; even if it doesn't happen straight away. Check out our factsheet ‘Challenging negative thinking.’

Philippians 4:13 NIV

“I can do all this through him who gives me strength.”

- Challenge accepted. Next time someone throws an unfamiliar or tricky task your way, don’t throw it back at them – embrace it. Even if you mess up along the way, you can be sure that next time you’ll do better.

Like Mary did she said may your word be fulfilled.

- Put work and effort into you goals. You’re unlikely to reach your goals if you’re not putting in the effort to match. Put the hard work in and you’ll be able to enjoy the rewards.

James 2:17

“In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.”

- Ain’t no such thing as perfect – there is always room for improvement. Always put as much effort as you can into the learning process. Practice your skills and make an effort to learn new ones. Last time we checked, the guitar isn't going to learn itself.

"It is Good" God fashioned the earth and creation with the ability to grow in improvement.

- Celebrate the big successes, and the small ones.

Give thanks to the Lord. " giving thanks opens the gates of heaven "

Psalm 100:4 NIV

“Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.”

- Be open to new ways of doing things. You can never be sure of how something is going to pan out if you’ve never tried it before. Before you make the assumption that something will never work, ask yourself “Why won’t it work?” Take negative thoughts captive. 2 Corinthians 10:4-5 NIV

“The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.”

- Don’t let setbacks get you down. When you come across setbacks, think about things that have helped in that situation before, and things that haven’t. Take feedback on board, and make changes accordingly. Setbacks don’t mean you’ve failed; just that you need to try a different approach.

Proverbs 24:16 NIV

“For though the righteous fall seven times, they rise again, but the wicked stumble when calamity strikes.”

Whatever you do, don't give up.

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