

WELCOME – Michael Mauldin

Welcome. Hello. Don't you love that song? It's like spiritual espresso, just like wakens you up, right? Like, here we are, we're ready to worship together.

Before we begin, I want to talk to us briefly about unity in worship. And in my life, one of the things I've discovered about the Bible is God loves unity, right? As He speaks of being unified with one another, but also with His spirit. And there's two things that I've found that unify the church the quickest. The first is persecution. I've been in Iraq, in the Middle East, where ISIS had invaded. And when you get over there and the church is being persecuted, nobody cares what your end times theology is. They're not concerned about that; what you're thinking of. They're like, you love Jesus. You love Jesus. Same team. Let's go. There's no time for the other stuff.

The other I found is I've spent time in Israel and we did a worship event on Mount Carmel, and people came from the west bank, from all over Israel, Palestinian Christians, Messianic Jews, we all came together for a worship event. And they said they've been trying to unite the churches, the people around the country, forever, but the power of worship brought them together to unite.

Worship and persecution are the two things that unite the church. How many believe we should unite around worship and not wait for persecution? All right. It's a good thing. Psalm 133 says this, behold how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity. It's like the precious oil on the head running down the beard of Aaron, running down the collar of his robes. It's like the dew of Hermon which falls on Mount Zion for there the Lord has commanded the blessing - life forevermore.

So it's in this place of unity that the oil falls upon our heads; the junk of the day comes off, the stagnation, the insecurities, the bitternesses, the judgments, all that, let all that fall away. If you're thinking about what other people are doing or how they're worshiping, you're missing the dew, you're missing the oil. Let's focus on Jesus, what He's done. It's going to clear our minds and our hearts, and there the Lord commands the blessing. Life forevermore.

So just grab the hand of the person next to you or put your hand on their shoulders in unity. God, we thank you for today. Thank you for your Word. Thank you for a place that we could come freely to worship you. Would you unite our hearts with one another and with you? Would you make us one today? Would you clear our hearts and our minds of all the junk of the day? Would you purify us with your love and your presence and saturate us that we could think clearly, hear clearly, and walk in love as you walked in love, in Jesus Mighty name, amen.

THANK YOU TO VOICES OF HOPE – Bobby Schuller

Let's give a hand to our high schoolers. Thank you for singing for us. God bless you. What a great song.

DECLARATION/SCRIPTURE – Bobby Schuller

You ready to hear the preaching of the Word of God? Let's prepare our hearts and minds. Stand up. We're going to say this scripture together. If your heart is yielded to the Lord and to His word, and if you want to obey Him with all your heart, hold your hands like this, and let's say this together:

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable, if anything is excellent or praiseworthy, think about such things. Somebody say amen. Amen!

MESSAGE/PRAYER – Bobby Schuller "The Supernatural Mind"

Today we're going to talk about a supernatural mind. For a supernatural life, you need a supernatural mind. If you would turn with me to Mark chapter 1. Is the mind important? Now we need to talk about it and we talk about it a lot, but we can't talk about it too much. I think I could spend the whole year talking about renewing the mind, and it would still be bearing fruit in the life of every believer.

I have to just pause. This is not in my sermon. I have to say something. The Holy Spirit is just really pressing on my heart in a heavy way. And I think this will be a stumbling block for some of you and I'm sorry about that. The Lord gave me a dream last night, and the dream was to pray for my wife more, and it was a rebuke. I pray for my wife a lot, but I know that the Lord has put an incredible calling on her life. When the enemy does wicked things in the world, and when he turns the volume up, God raises up men and women to respond to that. And He gives them a special anointing. I believe my wife is one of those special people.

If you've been touched by Hannah, raise your hand. Okay. And so I recognize that I can't pray casual prayers for my wife anymore. Really I have to intercede every day for her, and I think she prays for me in that powerful way. Praying for your husband or your wife is one of the most important spiritual responsibilities you have. If your spouse is not saved, don't pray that they'd be saved. That's not scriptural. Pray that God would send a harvester into their life. That God would send someone into their life. They're already ready to be harvested. They're already ready to be saved, they're just not ready to hear the gospel from their spouse, so you pray.

But that's not what I wanted to say. So I woke up and I felt heaviness on my heart, and I knew this was from the Lord, and I got up and I went to the restroom and I crawled back in bed, and I said Holy Spirit, I know this dream was from you, but this has me discouraged. Would you give me a fresh vision, something encouraging? And I want to tell you that the Lord did the opposite. He gave me the heaviest word I've ever felt in my life.

Immediately I received a vision from the Lord, and the vision was of a mountain, and on one side of the mountain was snow, and this will be a stumbling block; on the other side was blood. And above the mountain was the sun and the sun was shining, and was shining down light and heat, and it was drying up the blood. And it was starting to work, but then the sun set and the moon rose, and when the moon rose, it cooled, and the blood that was hard began to become liquid again, and it flowed through the cracks of the mountain into a spring of water, which people drink from, and the spring became cursed.

And I asked the Lord, Lord what does this mean? This doesn't make any sense to me. What is this vision that you've given me? And the Lord said, there are two churches, and this isn't from Revelation, as well. There is a pure bride of Christ, and there's a harlot and they look the same. And the sun is the bride of Christ. And I've called that bride to shine in power, and to stand for the mountain and for the people.

And the moon is the harlot. The moon looks like it shines light but it doesn't. It's just a dead rock that reflects the light of Christ, but isn't the light of Christ. And it gives light just enough so that you can navigate through the darkness. It doesn't do away with the darkness. And this is the harlot. The Lord said the harlot is like a man and a woman. The woman loved the man, but she had feelings for him for years, and they began to date and they became engaged, but before they could be married, the man was set off to war. And he sent letters to her, but while he was gone, when she became lonely and resentful to her missing fiancé, instead of reading the letters, she slept around. And when the husband came home, she thought she would be able to hide what she did, but her belly was beginning to swell, and she had become pregnant with evil.

And I said Lord, who is the harlot church? And I immediately thought of who you would probably think of, and He says it's not them. He says it's the ones that look like the other ones. The harlot looks like the bride.

They look evangelical, they lift their hands in worship, they study the scripture, but they've slept with the world. They profess the trinity, they say all the right things, but while I was away, they gave their heart to the world. And the only light they have to reflect is the light of the true church.

And I said Father, can't you hold the sun in the sky long enough so that it can take care of the blood as you did for Joshua? And He said I can do that, but if I do that, the snow will melt. And I said Lord, what is the snow? And He didn't say. And then I began to see the snow melt, and I began to weep. I still don't know what the snow means. But I believe the blood is violence.

I believe there's a time coming, it's not here yet, I think there's a time coming when there's going to be a call for violence, and many in the church are going to stand with those who are violent, and it'll be up to the true church to shine the light of Christ. I don't think it's come yet. I think this is prophetic vision of something to come. And I think the Lord wants me to say it now, so that if that time does come, this word would be vindicated, not as a word from man, but as a word from God. But if the sun stays in the sky, if we are the true church, if we try to do our best to shine the light of Christ, not in our own strength, but in His strength, we can't choose to keep the sun in the sky. Only the Lord can do that. We can't choose to burn with fire; only the Lord can do that. But if we do that, it comes with a cost. Melted snow. Those who have ears to hear, let them hear. Amen. (AUDIENCE – amen)

I think there's a huge mandate on the Gen-Z generation. So, so, so heavy. And I think that generation is going to pay an awful price. But their crown will be great in heaven. If you're under the age of 30, and you feel compelled by the sound of my voice, and you don't want to be a part of the harlot church, but you want to burn like the sun, and you're willing to die for it; there may not be one person in here that's like that, but if you're under the age of 30 and that is you, I want you to stand right now. Where are you? Okay. Philip, Philip come back up and play the piano. Philip come back up.

Keep standing. Okay. Church, extend your hands. I want you to know that the Lord sees what you're doing. And you may forget this years from now, but the Lord remembers our prayers long after we've forgotten them. Look at these brave young men and women. All right, let's pray. In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, I thank you that the Holy Spirit, who has come upon me now in the spirit of Elijah, who is John the Baptist, has made a confession of the word of God through the spirit, and has asked these young men and women to carry a mantle that is too heavy for most. And the Lord proclaims over you now the anointing power to remove burdens and destroy yokes. He sees your heart, He sees your life, He's calling you now. I'm asking that He'll begin to give you the mind of Christ, that every part of your life will emanate the power and life of the Lord everywhere you go. That it won't be by your power or by your strength, but by His spirit. Not by might, not by power, but by His spirit. By His spirit, in Jesus name.

And as their pastor, I pray and pledge the blood of Jesus around them to protect their hearts and minds from every attack of Satan. That when the day of trying comes, that they would stand firm. That no argument that sets itself up against the knowledge of Christ would prevail. That every part of their heart and mind would be totally submitted to you. And Lord, let these people know that they are your treasure. They don't need to be loved by the world. Let them feel, even now, your love for them. Let it be so rich and powerful upon their head now that they'll never want anything else. Only you satisfy, Lord. And we thank you, Father, and we pray it in the strong name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and all God's people said, amen. Praise God. Thank you, Lord.

I'm a fun guy normally, but the Lord is moving. I think COVID was an attack from Satan. It was a huge push from the enemy, and I think God is doing something in response right now. What we're experiencing is the wave that comes after that.

I'll give you two more dreams. None of this is my sermon.

This is why we need a second service. Just kidding. I was with Bethany, Pastor Bethany and Simon, and we were having a meal about.. was maybe a month or two ago, and God doesn't speak to me in dreams very often. And Simon was asking, he was talking about how the Lord had been speaking to him in dreams. And I think sometimes when you're hanging out with people that have like a special anointing, it can kind of like rub off on you. And he gave me three dreams, but only two make sense.

The first was I saw a vision of a man in like one of those red, what do you call those wagon things that kids ride in, and he had like little wings and he had like a helmet on and he looked like a complete nutcase. And he goes, woo, look, I'm flying. And then just as he was doing that, I saw this giant 747 take off over him. And it was like the Lord was like, this is the difference between manmade church and God made church. This is the difference between programs and vision. This is the difference between ritual and anointing. Amen? Okay, the second part I saw was I was in the ocean. I saw the biggest boat I've ever seen in my life. This huge ship. This massive ship, like, so high. It was a warship and as wide as it could go. And I said, Lord, can a boat that big float? And He said, you can build a ship as big as you want as long as you build it the right way. Praise God. Who knows Shepherd's Grove is a church that wants to build it the right way. Amen. And we are people. We're all flawed. We're going to sin, we're going to make mistakes, but we walk in the anointing. Amen?

Can I go a little long? I've got 13 minutes. Can I go 30 minutes? If you need to go, you can go. Okay? We're going to talk about a supernatural mind. And actually, how do you hear from God the way I'm hearing from God. There's no special thing about Bobby Schuller other than what everybody else has. We all have access to the Lord. What's missing is our desire, our willingness to pray and to be in the Word and to cut everything in the world that is bad hygiene or sinful. And I think those are two different things.

And as I said, turn to Mark, chapter one. This is great. The Lord has given me some freedom now to preach. I was, like, grinding. I've heard people say, don't be so spiritually minded that you're no earthly good. That's a lie. I've never in my life, ever, and I've been to church a long time, met someone that was so spiritually minded, they weren't any earthly good. Earthly good? Worldly good? You can be so worldly minded, you're no spiritual good.

And what I have seen is that the people who are spiritually minded, that have the mind of Christ, are THE thing the earth needs. We need believers that are spiritually minded. No mixing. God hates mixing. Amen? To show the power and the life of God. So we need to make sure that our mind is the mind of Christ; that it belongs to Him, and that requires a type of crucifixion.

Here's a great lie that the world will tell you: you can't change the way you think. Your thinking is the result of your trauma and your past. I mean, that's sometimes true, but you can change the way you think. Figuring out your past isn't going to set you free. The truth will set you free. You don't need to know why you think the way you think or why you feel the way you feel. You need to change the way you think. They say you can't control the way you think. You can't control your negative thoughts. You can't control your sinful thoughts. I promise you, your grandma didn't tell you that. Is that right? Some professional who probably has a screw loose. Okay, don't get me wrong, clinical therapy is good; that's not what I'm saying. I'm just saying that you can change the way you think.

This is ancient knowledge. It's not a new idea. I'm not proposing something new. This is from the word of God. Here's a huge, huge lie. The biggest of them all: your thoughts are private. Lies. If you resent your husband, he knows. If you're lusting after women, they know. If you're not forgiving someone, they know. If you're gossiping about someone, even in your heart, they know. And the longer you do it, the more obvious it will become. Your thoughts are not private. You might have a little fleeting thought here and there, but that's not a real thought. It's the ones that you let take hold of you.

What is it your grandpa used to say? You can let birds fly over your head, but you don't need to make them a nest in your hair. You don't need to let them make it.. whatever. You get what I'm saying. If they make a nest in your hair, people will see the nest.

And so discipleship, a big part of discipleship is the renewing of the mind. It's a changing of the mind and the total turning over of the mind to the Lord. Our minds are so ADD and so everywhere and so worried about so many things and thinking about everything. TikTok and Instagram and everything else doesn't help.

And your mind is like a garden. If you've ever been a gardener, if you've had a green thumb, I'll tell you, when I started gardening, I stopped after a while because it was so hard and I was so bad at it. It's effort! I just thought you put a seed in the ground and you water it. Wrong, wrong, wrong. You have to measure acidity, you have to worry about fungus and disease and worms and bugs.

Now, this is true of the mind. You can't just plant the word of God. You can't renew your mind by just reading the Bible. Although you have to do that. That's the seed. But you got to tend to worms. You got to tend to weeds. You got to worry about disease. You got to worry about neighbors. Is that right? And most of all, the Lord is the vinedresser, not you. The Lord is the vinedresser, not you. Amen? Who knows the worms best? Who knows what's a weed and what's a seed? Who knows what needs to stay and what needs to go? He is the Lord, and He tells us through His Holy Spirit. You cannot have a spiritual mind and not be spiritually led.

The Holy Spirit will tell you to remove things from your life that are not a sin, and you need to do it. And He'll especially tell you to remove things that are a sin, and you need to do it. The Psalms says, blessed is the one who does not walk in the way of the wicked, or stand in the way of sinners, or sit in their seat of mockers. But his delight is on the law of the Lord. And on his law he what? He meditates. Meditates day.. just day? (AUDIENCE – and night) and night. Day and night. Wow. He must be like a exhausted tree. Wrong? No, he's like a tree who's planted by streams of water, who bears fruit in its season, whose leaf does not wither. Some of the stuff he does prospers. (HANNAH – no everything) What is that, Hannah? (HANNAH – everything) Oh, Hannah says I got that wrong. Everything he does prospers.

Does that sound exhausting to you? I used to think meditating on the Lord would be exhausting. To just do that all the time. To think about the Lord all the time would be exhausting. Let me tell you, thinking about anything but the Lord all the time is exhausting. You're meditating on something day and night. Day and night you're meditating on something. Your job, your spouse, your kids. That's exhausting. Amen! (AUDIENCE – amen) But the spiritual mind is life and peace. So we need to repent. We need to repent. Don't say legalism. Don't say religiosity. Repent. Now. Repent. Repent. The repent in Hebrew is shuv. Shuv means to return, to come home. But it means something else in Greek. And I think you got to put them together to really get the true message of repentance. And we're going to read some scriptures that show some stuff on repentance. The word for repenting or repent in the Greek is metanoeo. It means to change your mind. You might have heard pastors say metanoia. It's another form. Metanoia - change your mind. So when you take, return and change your mind; this is a good pairing, isn't it? So repent doesn't mean just to feel bad, and it is that. It doesn't mean to have just like beat your chest and to be on your knees, and it is that, in part. It doesn't mean to be grieved by sin and evil, and it is that. It means to actually change. And not just change, change here. Here! Every time you see repent, the word is change your mind. Metanoia. Amen!

Mark, chapter one, verse 14. Mark is the first gospel written. A lot of people don't know this. Mark was written by Peter, actually. And John Mark, who was a wealthy, erudite Jewish and Greek man, the great Greek, wrote down what Peter said. It was Peter's gospel, anyway. And because scrolls were small, since scrolls were expensive, you had to be very economical with the words.

Mark, chapter one. So it's the very beginning, right? Verse 14. After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee proclaiming the good news of God. This is the first time Jesus speaks in the Gospel of Mark, okay? And what does it say? The time has come, he said. The kingdom of God has come near. What? (AUDIENCE – repent) Repent and believe the good news. This is Jesus very first command ever is what? (AUDIENCE – repent) Repent. And notice how you can't believe until you repent. You first repent. Which means what? (AUDIENCE – change your mind) Change your mind! And to return - shuv. To return and to change your mind, then you'll believe. Change your mind. Same thing with John the Baptist. I think he might have said a thing or two about repenting. Is that true, Michael? Just a little bit? I mean, pretty much the only thing he said was, repent and be baptized. Repent and be baptized. Repent and be baptized. Return and change your mind. Return and change your mind. Amen? (AUDIENCE – amen) What did Peter say when the throng of thousands said, how must we be saved? He said, repent and be baptized, and so on and so forth. Paul in Athens, all these academics at the Areopagus says, repent, change your mind, change your philosophy. You know, I was going to do this one. John, chapter 12, verse 2 says; you can turn John, chapter 12.. or not John. I'm sorry. Romans 12. My bad. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed. How? (AUDIENCE – renewing) by the renewing of your mind. And here's the part that a lot of people miss the then you'll be able to test and approve, or it can also be proof what God's will is. His good, pleasing and perfect will. A lack of faith is the result of not truly knowing God's will. If you absolutely know it's God's will for you to be made well, you're going to have a lot of faith in recovery. If you know 100% God's will for you in regards to, like your ministry, for example, you're going to have a lot of faith for that ministry. Is that right? If you really believe it's from God. So how do we know God's will other than reading the scripture? And the way is the renewing of the mind. We can hear from God, and then God will lead us and we'll do the things we're supposed to do. Amen?

The renewing of the mind helps us, one commentary says, discern through experience. That as you experience the Lord, you'll start to get a better feel for what it sounds like to hear from God. And that'll renew your mind more because you're hearing from God and not from Satan or from the world.

All that to simply say, and we'll touch on this more later, but be led by the Spirit in every little thing. You might even say it this way: be led by the Spirit in every little dumb thing that doesn't seem important. This is so important. This is such a huge deal because what happens is we're not led by the Lord all the time, we're only led by the Lord when we want to be. And when we want to be is usually when we're in a crisis. I need a job. My marriage isn't going well. Whatever. I've got a sickness. I need to hear from you, God. Well, you weren't listening to me when you we're ordering a Chipotle. Should we listen to the Lord (AUDIENCE – yes) when we order at Chipotle? (AUDIENCE – yes)

Now, you might think this is silly, but this is so key that we are listening to the Lord on the small things first, and we practice on those small things so that when we get to the big things, we have ears to hear and eyes to see. And if you do that, if you can walk as much.. let's just say as high a percentage as possible, listening to the Lord, you're going to get thoughts and promptings and dreams and checks. He's going to tell you to connect with some people and not other people, and to rebuke a friend, which is so hard to do, or hold your tongue. How are you supposed to know if the Lord doesn't lead you?

I remember, not long ago there was a pastor, huge pastor, major ministry, and I saw him and somebody I really look up to, and we know each other, but not super well, and he was like, give me your cell phone. Let's get together, let's go hang out. And the Lord was like, don't do it. Good man, great ministry. Lord was like, don't do it. I gave him my number, but I made it a point not to connect with him. I have no idea why. Do I need to know why? No, it's probably none of my business.

So we need to know that if we're going to be renewed by our mind that the Lord will speak to us, and that's the main way we renew our mind into life and peace. And we need to know that if we're not listening to the Holy Spirit, we're going to listen to other things and think it's us. Not all thoughts are yours. My original notes were, not all thoughts are yours, but most are. And the Lord is like, huh, huh. I was praying about this this morning. Nuh, huh, most thoughts are not yours. Is that true? (AUDIENCE – yes) I think that's right. You're like a radio, and there's like radio signals all over and you have a choice to be on what channel you're going to be on. You got to turn the dial. You know those old radios where you could hit it and it's just like skip, skip, skip. And it doesn't stop on the old car radios? Do you know what I'm talking about, Michael? It just keeps going forever? That's what you're doing. Careless. You need to go to one station, Jesus FM, keep it there. Most thoughts are coming from one of three places. They're either coming from your flesh, they're either coming from Satan, or they're coming from the Holy Spirit or an angel, and I'm not going to take time to discern between angels and the Holy Spirit. It's the same, in a way. It's all from God. And the Bible instructs us that when we have thoughts from the flesh, what should we do to them? Somebody say crucify him. You crucify that thought from the flesh. When a thought comes from Satan, it's to be resisted and he will flee from you. And when a thought comes from the Holy Spirit, you are to immediately obey it. Immediately.

I hear people say, oh, the Lord told me to do this, and I didn't do it the first day. And then He kept telling me to do it, and I went a week later and I didn't do it, and then finally, after three weeks, I gave into the Holy Spirit. That man does not fear the Lord. No fear. If you fear the Lord and He tells you to do something, immediately do it. And if you're not sure if it's the Lord, you go into your closet and you find out. Amen? This is the most important thing in our life.

Think of all the tragedy we could avoid, all the opportunity we could possess, if only we were led by the Holy Spirit and we immediately obeyed. So the flesh should be crucified, Satan should be resisted, and the spirit should be immediately obeyed. What do we mostly do? We coddle the flesh, meaning we give into it as much as is socially acceptable. We obey Satan because he usually offers us something enjoyable. And we resist the spirit. Now, you might be surprised to know that you can and often do resist the Holy Spirit. Acts chapter 7. This is what Stephen said to the audience that was listening to him. He said, you always resist the Holy Spirit. Guess what? He was talking to religious people, not us. Amen?

Let's just talk about this real quick. The flesh is the carnal mind, and it's going to have all sorts of bad thoughts that it'll send your way. Don't feel guilty about it. It's just the flesh. Romans 8:6-8. The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the spirit is what? (AUDIENCE – life and peace) Life and peace. The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God, does not submit to God's laws, nor can it do so. But those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God. But it's animal and like an animal, it has animalistic desires and needs, pain and pleasures. Always speaking. And your response is, I love you, but no. You got to train your body just like you train an animal. No. It's not evil, it's not weak, it's just nature. And this can be sex and romance, eating, vanity, spending hours in the mirror, sloth, not getting out of bed or doing anything, drinking too much, or whatever. And it can also be anger and envy. You need to crucify the flesh. Galatians 5 says, those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. Since we live by the spirit, let us keep in step with the spirit. Notice how the opposite of being led by the flesh is being led by what? (AUDIENCE – the spirit) The spirit. Amen.

The second type of thought is the demonic influences. If you have a call on your life, demons will speak to you. Some of them are talking to you right now. Brother Prince said, "Anything with a voice is a person." Anything with a voice is a person.

And if that voice accuses, or if that voice torments, we can know for sure that Satan is behind it. He's the accuser of the brethren. Is that right? And if we know for sure that Satan is behind it, if it accuses and torments, we need to deal with it like a demon. What do you do with demonic voices, Hannah? (HANNAH – slap it down) Somebody say, slap it down. (AUDIENCE – slap it down) You slap that monkey down, that little dog, that little rat, you slap it down. Is that right? (AUDIENCE – yes) Slap it down. You have all authority, all power. He's more afraid of you than you are of him. You stomp that snake on the head, you kick that thing out. You have all authority. It's all smoke and mirrors. You slap it down. Here's some examples of what the demonic voice sounds like. Anything that has to do with self-harm, cutting, if you're tempted to like throw up to lose weight, that's a demonic voice. Anorexia is a demonic voice. Anything that's deep rivalry, especially towards a decent person is demonic. And if there's somebody in your life that's not a decent person, but you say to yourself, I wish they were dead, or I wouldn't mind if they were dead, that's demonic. Any voice that says God doesn't love you is demonic. Any voice that says God will call and use other people, but He'd never use someone like you. God talks to people, but doesn't talk to you. God calls people, but He doesn't call you. Somebody say it. (AUDIENCE – demonic) That's demonic.

You're not saved. Demonic. You're going out of your mind is ironically one of the great things that Satan says to make you go out of your mind. Demonic. He says, your mother went out of her mind. Your father, your uncle, your grandma. You cast it down. You slap it down. You'll always be a failure. A voice that says that pain is cancer, it's demonic. That shouldn't be the first thing you run to. It's probably too much burrito. See? And what Satan is trying to do is increase your faith in these tormenting thoughts. And he wants you to open the door.

Remember what happened to Jesus in the desert? See, one of the great freedoms about knowing that these thoughts are demonic, every evil, wicked, nasty thought that you have that is coming from hell is to know that it's not coming from you. Isn't that good news? Isn't that freeing? Aren't you glad that when Jesus was tempted in the wilderness and the thought that came to Him, you should jump, He didn't go, why do I want to jump? Or the thought that came to Him, you should turn that rock into bread. He didn't go, oh.. why didn't I.. or when the thought came to worship Satan, He didn't go, oh man, why did I want to worship Satan? Aren't you glad that that wasn't His response? He immediately, being the master, knew where that voice was coming from. From hell. And what was His response? It (AUDIENCE – is) is (AUDIENCE – written) written. This is the ultimate slap down. Not your word, but the Lord's, amen? (AUDIENCE – yes) It is written.

I know I've told this story, but it's worth telling again from Pastor Keith Moore. A guy was at top of a tower. He's looking down.. I think it was Sears Tower or something. He goes, wow, and this voice said to him, you should jump. And immediately he said, you jump. Isn't that right? You jump. That's the attitude.

Number three. And this is the most important. The third voice that we hear is the Holy Spirit, and we follow the Holy Spirit in every little thing. The Holy Spirit will not torment you. He'll say it once or twice, gently, and if you don't obey, that's it. That's it. That's all you got. He's like a dove. He's a gentleman. He doesn't dominate, he doesn't torment. He goes, here's this. I want you to do this. And if you're like that fool who doesn't fear the Lord and says, oh, it's that. I didn't do it, then you're not going to hear from God very often.

Shema, in Hebrew, shema means to listen, or it can mean obey. There's one reason why Hebrew is such a beautiful language. Greek is very precise. It's mathematical. There's 80,000 words in Greek when the New Testament is written. There's only 2,000 Hebrew words, and they don't even have any vowels when the Old Testament is written.

Like this prayer, Shema Yisrael, Adonai Eloheinu, Adonai. Who knows that prayer?

Anybody grow up in Shul or Hebrew school or anything? It can mean so many things. It traditionally means, hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one.

But it can also mean, listen, Israel, or obey Israel to the Lord alone. Isn't that great? All right, I digress, and I don't have time to digress.

If you hear and you don't obey, you're not listening. If you hear and you don't obey and you do that enough, you'll grieve the Spirit and you'll stop hearing from God. And if that's happened to you, you got to repent and humble yourself. And you got to start with Chipotle. You got to start all over again. Lord, what should I order? Lord, should I buy something for the person behind me?

Just a few weeks ago, the Lord instructed me, sit here. And I was doing some work, I was at the mall in the food court, and the Lord doesn't usually say stuff like to me, He's like, sit here. I was like, ugh, is this the Lord? And then I was like kind of sitting, and then there were some noisy kids just like right there. I was like, why is the Lord have you sitting here? And I'm like doing my work. And this guy, a pastor, comes up to me. He says, are you Pastor Bobby Schuller? Who knows that was the Lord.

It's a constant posture of listening to the Lord. This is how you renew your mind. It's not just cutting out the bad stuff and slapping it down, but constantly listening to the Lord. Just always, just as much as you can. If you're feeling stressed out, exhausted, turn the dial. I'm listening, Lord, I'm listening. I'm listening. I'm listening. When you reach for your phone, when you order food, when you go to a party or a gathering or a double date, or you go out with your spouse, when you have a conflict, when you read the Bible, you need to be (doo, doo, doo) listening. Amen?

And by the way, many of you are wanting to be in ministry. The way you discover your ministry is by being obedient in small things. Don't confuse your calling to ministry with spiritual gifts. They're not the same thing. They're often aligned but ministry is a service. Ministry literally means service, and to minister means to serve.

And so very often your ministry coincides with your spiritual gifts, but you need to be obedient to the Holy Spirit in those little things and then all of a sudden somebody will go, oh, wow, you're doing this thing. Can you help us do this more? Those who have ears to ear, let them hear.

All right, in conclusion, here's some marks of the redeemed mind. There's probably more, but these are three things that came to me. First, a redeemed or renewed or a spiritual mind is not self-centered, it's God-centered. The un-renewed mind says, I want, I think, I feel. And it's often saying, it's not fair, it's full of envy and resentment. But Jesus didn't say, I want, I think, I feel. He said, not my will, but yours be done. Amen?

Number two, marker of a renewed mind. It's not proud. You guys can come up. I'm almost done. It's not proud. It's not self-seeking. It's not desiring influence or popularity. Matthew chapter 20, verse 25. Jesus called them together and said, you know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant. And whoever wants to be first must be your slave. Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many. There should be only one person in this whole universe we want to be famous. One person. And it's not me. Amen? And it's not Hannah. It's not any of the leaders here. Who is it? (AUDIENCE – Jesus) It's the Lord Jesus Christ.

And we should say that with an honest heart. If I go my whole life, nobody knows my name and I'm buried in an unmarked tomb, but some aspect of my life made the Lord Jesus Christ more famous than it would have been had I not lived, then I lived a worthy life. That is a renewed mind. I don't need influence. I don't need popularity. I don't need people to like me. I don't need this world. I love this world in the sense that Jesus loved it, but I turn my back on this world. I don't need them. (AUDIENCE – amen) Amen?

Sorry, Phil's piano got in my spine, made me feel emotional. Philip, you're a great pianist. So the renewed mind is not looking for opportunities to rule, it's looking for opportunities to serve.

It's not trying to get honor, get attention or get love, it's trying to give attention, give honor, give love. Pastor Michael pointed this out last week that we should compete with one another, the scripture says, on outdoing each other in honor, honoring one another like a competition.

Finally, number three, the renewed mind is totally yielded and full of faith in God. My grandpa used to say impossible is such an irresponsible word. It's good to feel that way, isn't it? It's possible. It's possible for Nick Vujicic to regrow arms and legs. It's possible for our nation to be completely turned around. It's possible for California to be totally turned around. Is it possible? (AUDIENCE – yes) It's possible. All of these things are possible.. it's possible for God to move in our schools again. It's possible for peace to cover America where everybody loves each other again. That's possible. Did you know that?

See, a renewed mind can't think that way. A renewed mind is all violence, all friction, all fighting. No. Life and peace. That's the spiritual mind. Life and peace. Amen? It's possible for God to save your unsaved friend who's a hardcore atheist. Possible for God to heal. It's possible for God to turn a nation.

Let's stand together. Lift your hands with me as high as you can and repeat after me: I submit (AUDIENCE – I submit) my mind (AUDIENCE – my mind) to the spirit of Christ (AUDIENCE – to the spirit of Christ). It's no longer I who live (AUDIENCE – it's no longer I who live), but Christ who lives within me (AUDIENCE – but Christ who lives within me). I put on the mind of Christ (AUDIENCE – I put on the mind of Christ). I listen only to the Spirit (AUDIENCE – I listen only to the spirit). The Lord speaks to me (AUDIENCE – the Lord speaks to me) and I hear (AUDIENCE – and I hear) because He is my shepherd (AUDIENCE – because He is my shepherd) and I am a sheep (AUDIENCE – and I am a sheep) in Jesus name (AUDIENCE – in Jesus name). Amen (AUDIENCE – amen). Praise God. Thank you Lord.

BENEDICTION – Michael Mauldin

Amen, amen. Powerful word. Hey, if anybody wants prayer today, we're going to have some guys up front. Bethany as well, we're going to be up front. We'd love to pray with you if this was speaking to you and you want freedom in some areas, we'd love to pray with you.

But everybody else got to bless you. Lord, I just thank you for this community. Thank you for those that are going to walk with the mind of Christ this week. They got to smack down those other thoughts that don't need to be there. Let us be those spiritual smacker downers and receive of your word, in Jesus name we bless you. Amen.