

Think Differently

By Justin Morton

We all understand our lives, as followers of Jesus, should look very different from the world around us. The way we live and speak should resemble Christ and not our culture. Paul informs us our bodies should be a living sacrifice that is not conformed to the world around us (Rom. 12:1-2). Sadly, people may not always see much of a difference in our lives. They may look at us and see nothing more than what they see in the people around them.

Why is it our lives do not always look different than the world? Why, even though we know we ought to live differently, do our actions and the words we speak imitate our culture, not Christ? Perhaps our words and actions haven't changed because the way we think hasn't changed.

If we want to change the way we behave, we must first change the way we think. The Apostle John told us not to love the world or the things that are in the world (1 Jn. 2:15-17). Living in our society, this can be quite difficult. We constantly are bombarded with worldly living. For years, Tim Tebow was in the spotlight, not just because of his athletic abilities, but because of his stance on sex before marriage. People of the world had a hard time understanding why a young, good-looking athlete would choose to live this way. In fact, many wondered how he could live such a life in the environment around him.

I do not know Tim Tebow personally, but my guess is he lived this way because he chose to think differently, just like those of us who choose to live godly lives in an ungodly world. Instead of thinking how the world believes we should act and live, we think about how God believes we should act and live. We think on those things which are true, honorable, right, pure, lovely and of good report (Phil. 4:8).

If we do not want to be conformed to the culture around us, we must do something different. This starts with the way we think. The more we think like the world, the more we become like the world. Let's change how and what we think about, so our lives will resemble that of Christ and not of our culture.