



## Am I a Double-Minded Christian?

**James 1:7-8:** (NASB) *<sup>7</sup>For that man ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Lord, <sup>8</sup>being a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.*



We all want to be successful at whatever it is we are focusing on. Our Christian life is no exception, though the words we use to describe "success" are entirely different than with other endeavors. We want to be faithful. We want to live lives of sacrifice. We want to walk in Jesus' footsteps. All of these things equate to the Christian version of experiencing victory in life. Regardless of the words or the effort, how do we attain such an end? How do we "arrive"? One short phrase will get us started: Be single-minded. Have your vision clear and your energy directed. This is no easy task, for most of us struggle with these very disciplines. It is far too easy to end up distracted and double-minded. It is far too easy to start and not finish. It is far too easy to rationalize our way out of triumph. How do we do it? How do we put habitual double-minded thinking behind us and instead reach forward towards true achievement?

This is a personal challenge for each of us. "Is my head being truly single-minded spiritually as a Christian?"

 **Most meaningful decision, *How to Stay Focused*, [brendonburchard.com](http://brendonburchard.com)**

- *How do you stay focused? Answering this question is perhaps the most important critical thing you will ever do in your lifetime...period. So, I hope it is an absolute priority for you to learn to take back your focus in life, for you to get more distinct and more clear about what your focus really is and for you to finally decide, "If I don't finally get my focus in check, if I keep wandering around distracted, if I keep looking at every new thing that pops up, if I keep trying every single new opportunity, if I keep saying "yes" to everything, if I keep listening to everybody's complaints and do whatever they ask me to do," at some point you'll lose your life. I don't mean that physically as in harm or death. I mean that one day you'll wake up and say, "I don't feel like I've accomplished what's meaningful to me."*

We want to learn how to stay focused. Fortunately for us, we are not the only ones in history to have this question. This problem is not unique.

**Let's begin by defining what double-mindedness looks like:**

**James 1:7-8:** (NASB) *<sup>7</sup>For that man ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Lord, <sup>8</sup>being a double-minded <1374> man, unstable in all his ways.*

**Double-minded:** Strong's #1374 two-spirited, i.e. vacillating (in opinion or purpose)

This is a broad-based description of one who relies on *two different* kinds of influences to try and take a stand. Let us suggest **to be double-minded means you do not fully stand for a focused perspective - instead you lean towards it or voice support but do not really live the support.** Many of us take the path of least resistance, because it is easier.



### Your gift, *Move Forward Each Day by 1%, Absolute Motivation*

- (Michael Jordan's college basketball coach) The body has limitations; the mind does not. We focus so much on what goes on from the neck down that we forget it all starts from here. (Points at head) Everything starts from there. If you're not mentally ready, you're never really physically prepared. And that's where the preparation starts. I firmly believe that everybody in this room - everybody on this planet - has a gift. It's your job to figure out what that gift is. Then it becomes your job to decide whether you're going to act on that or not. Everyone sees the work that you put in, but it's what you don't see that's going to determine how far you're going to get.*

As a Christian, our state of mind needs to be focused on our mission.



Elijah defines double-mindedness related to deciding your direction. Elijah and Ahab are getting ready for battle. Elijah is on one side and the 450 prophets of Baal are on the other side with 300 servants behind them.

#### **Elijah speaks to the people who gathered around for this showdown:**

**1 Kings 18:21-22:** (NASB) <sup>21</sup>*Elijah came near to all the people and said, How long will you hesitate between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him. But the people did not answer him a word.* <sup>22</sup>*Then Elijah said to the people, I alone am left a prophet of the LORD, but Baal's prophets are 450 men.*

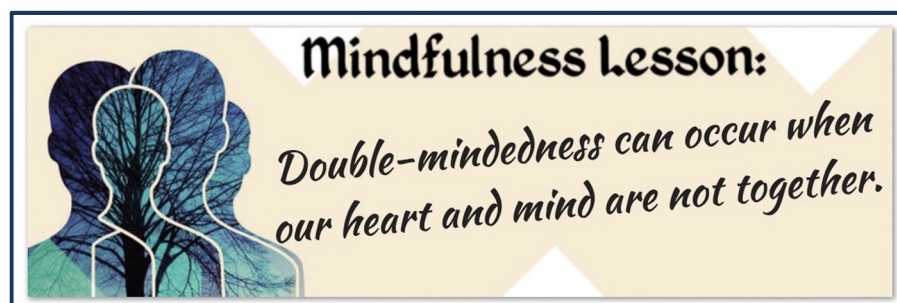
The odds were stacked against Elijah. He is telling the people they need to make a decision. The people wanted to follow God, but the circumstances and the odds did not seem conducive to commit to following God. Perhaps their *hearts* were in the right place, but their *heads* only saw trouble! The people were quiet and would not commit. That is where double-mindedness comes from.

#### **Jesus teaches how our focus will relate to what we value:**

**Matthew 6:19-21:** (NASB) <sup>19</sup>*Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal.* <sup>20</sup>*But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal;* <sup>21</sup>*for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*

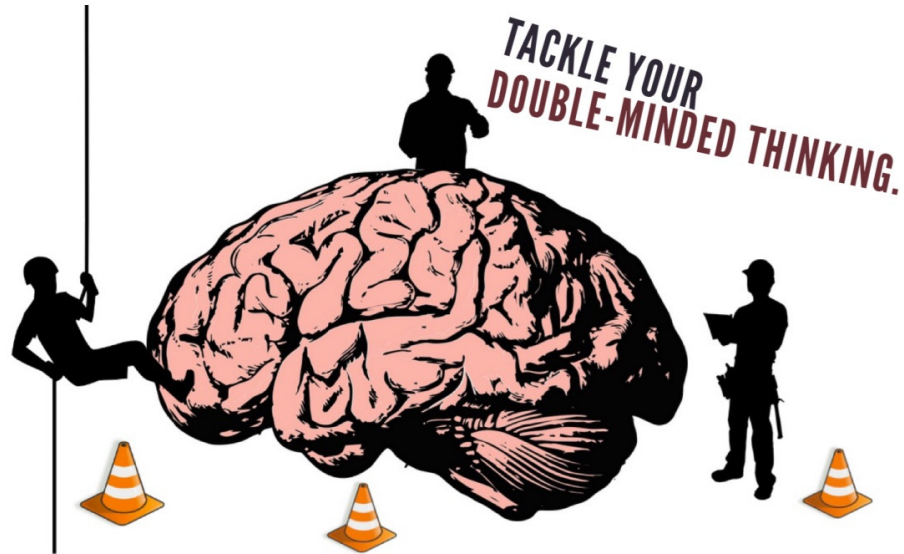
What we treasure (what our heart holds close) is based on what we clearly choose to value. Sometimes we treasure something we have not given much thought to because we are going by our "gut feeling." An indecisive double-minded choice brings a dramatically devalued treasure. Our Christianity, following after Jesus, *should* be our greatest treasure.

For more on what we treasure, please see the March 19, 2018, CQ Episode 1013: "Are Your Treasures Really Worth Treasuring?"



## How can we avoid double-mindedness in relation to our own personal and individual experience?

The best place to start tackling any double-minded thinking is right at home in our own personal lives. As Christians we need to carefully think through where our heads and hearts are, first and foremost in relation to how we see ourselves. Self-perception will always dictate our outward perceptions!



 **Make fewer decisions, *How to Stay Focused*, [brendonburchard.com](http://brendonburchard.com)**

- *How are you going to get your focus back? Well, let me give you some counterintuitive ways to do it. The first thing that I need you to know in order to get your focus back is to realize that you need to make fewer decisions. Fewer decisions. Why? Well, as we know from neuroscience and we know from productivity studies, that the more decisions that we actually make, the more our brain becomes fatigued. The more decisions that we make the more we utilize the glucose that's really fueling our willpower, that's fueling, frankly, our ability to make more decisions and higher quality decisions. Matter of fact, the more decisions that you tend to make the less effective you're going to be over the long-term, because you're going to utilize your ability and your resources and your brain's power, literally your willpower will go out the window.*



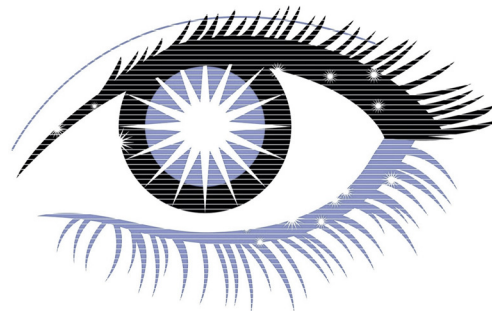
"Make fewer decisions." Keep it simple. We tend to make more decisions when we are more double and triple-minded.



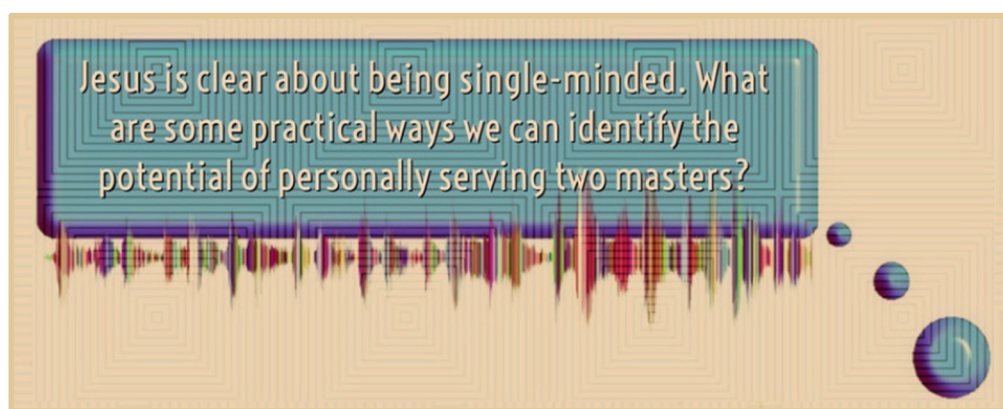
## Jesus sets a foundation for the process of making fewer decisions:

**Matthew 6:22-24: (NASB)** <sup>22</sup>*The eye is the lamp of the body; so, then if your eye is clear, your whole body will be full of light. <sup>23</sup>But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light that is in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!*

Jesus is giving us a sense of clarity. The eye means not only what you are seeing but what you want to see! If what you are seeing and what you want to see is not clear and focused, then you are looking towards darkness. Focus on the most important thing.



<sup>24</sup>*No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.*



We have the potential of serving two masters if we do not take care of our mental, emotional, physical and spiritual well-being. Be careful with the influences in your life such as television, radio, books, music and podcasts. Pay attention to these areas and choose wisely!

 **Tony Robbins, *Move Forward Each Day by One Percent, Absolute Motivation***

- *Who you spend time with is who you become, because whoever you spend time with affects your beliefs and your values and your need for their love, their attention, their significance. In fact, if I'm going to play tennis and I play with someone worse than I am on a regular basis, I am not going to get better. Even if you play terrible your skill sets are going to grow significantly because of your desire to connect and play at that level.*

It is simple: Who you spend time with is who you become. Spend time with those you want to become like, not with those who may be going in the opposite direction. Who you spend time with affects your beliefs and values. You do not want to get your values from someone you do not respect or appreciate. Being single-minded has everything to do with your decisions on how you spend your time.

James takes a very spiritually single-minded approach to perceiving our personal experiences and gives us a step-by-step process to attain it.

**James 1:2-11: (NASB)** <sup>2</sup>*Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, <sup>3</sup>knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance.*

**Step 1.** Do we "see" the trial or do we "see" the purpose? What you see determines your "mind."

<sup>4</sup>And let endurance have its perfect (complete as in fulfilled) result, so that you may be perfect (same word) and complete (whole), lacking in nothing.

**Step 2.** Spiritual single-mindedness is a choice that requires time and serious effort to develop. Set priorities. If we do not set priorities, we cannot be single-minded.

<sup>5</sup>But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

**Step 3.** Spiritual single-mindedness requires spiritual wisdom. If we truly want such wisdom, ask God!

<sup>6</sup>But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind. <sup>7</sup>For that man ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Lord, <sup>8</sup>being a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

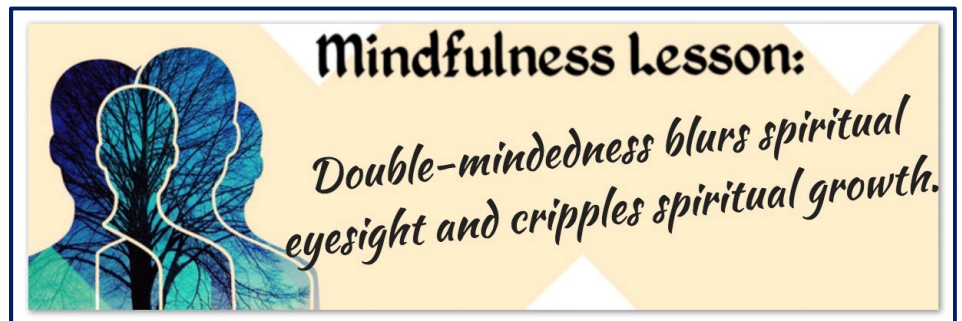
**Step 4.** Our asking must be a focused asking, else nothing will come of it. Here is where things can easily break down!

<sup>9</sup>But the brother of humble circumstances is to glory in his high position;

**Step 5.** Spiritual single-mindedness results in "seeing" yourself through different eyes. First, the glory of being lifted up by God from whatever your earthly state may be.

<sup>10</sup>and the rich man is to glory in his humiliation, because like flowering grass he will pass away. <sup>11</sup>For the sun rises with a scorching wind and withers the grass; and its flower falls off and the beauty of its appearance is destroyed; so too the rich man in the midst of his pursuits will fade away.

**Step 6.** Spiritual single-mindedness results in "seeing" yourself through different eyes. Second, the glory of being humbled by God from whatever your earthly state may be.





## How does double-mindedness distract us from real and deep fellowship with our brotherhood?

Now that we have a grip on fighting the fight for spiritual single-mindedness we can take those principles and apply them to those around us. Our next priority should be fellow Christians, those closest to us who are fighting the same battles as we are. True heart-felt contribution to other called-out ones can only be given as a result of what we spiritually see. Many churches get off-track here. At some churches you are often asked to give money and are promised things in return. That is not the true contribution we are referring to. We need to think, "What am I doing in relation to the brotherhood around me? Am I being single-minded in my approach towards them?"

**James continues with a blunt and revealing assessment of how double-mindedness can derail all of the good that should flow from spiritual fellowship:**

James 4:1-5: (NASB) <sup>1</sup>*What is the source of quarrels and conflicts among you? Is not the source your pleasures that wage war in your members?* <sup>2</sup>*You lust and do not have; so, you commit murder. You are envious and cannot obtain; so, you fight and quarrel...*

*What is the source of quarrels and conflicts among you?* As Christians, we have so much by being called to serve God through His grace. When we get together with other Christians everything should be great with fellowship, study and lifting each other up. James is asking, "What is the cause of your less-than spiritual thinking?"

The human desires we naturally carry can and will cause spiritual chaos among us! We want what we want, so we try to get it. This is the fundamental opposite of Christlikeness!

 **Stop browsing, *How to Stay Focused*, [brendonburchard.com](http://brendonburchard.com)**

- *So, you want to minimize the number of decisions you're making. How do you do that? Well, here's some simple things. One, stop browsing. I know maybe you found me because you were browsing somewhere, and I hope you make me part of your focus on your personal development, that I'm a purposeful part of your life, but I can tell you that overall browsing completely wipes out your focus and your willpower. All these little things you're focusing on are utilizing all your brain's resources. And over a period of time when you stop browsing and you go back to focusing on something, guess what? You tend not to be able to focus on one thing and get things done. You start multitasking and doing lots of things, but where your work isn't really focused, nothing gets accomplished. Meaning, it's easier to become distracted the more distracted you are. Meaning, the more that you aren't focusing on one thing at a time, the more problem you're going to have later on to complete one thing at a time.*

The internet is a big temptation. Stop browsing. Focus on the most important things.

*...You do not have because you do not ask. <sup>3</sup>You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on your pleasures. (Having and feeding such desires leads to the disastrous end in the next verse...) <sup>4</sup>You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore, whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.*





You cannot appease both sides without making God the loser. James draws a line in the sand of our spiritual fellowship - either be worldly or be godly! *Choose this day whom ye will serve.* By mixing the two you have created a recipe for opposition to God Himself.

Let's go back to Brendon Burchard. He already told us to stop browsing and make fewer decisions. Now for his next point: Define your mission.

 **Define your mission, *How to Stay Focused*, [brendonburchard.com](http://brendonburchard.com)**

- *That leads us to point number two. You must define your mission. You need to have a mission for what you're doing today. You need to have an intention for what your next task is going to be. What happens is that most people just show up and say, "Okay, well I guess I'll do some stuff," but they have no intention whatsoever, so they end up doing too many things that mean nothing towards their mission. You should figure out what is it you desire in life and figure out the steps to get there, and start working a plan to get there and minimizing everything else. Getting very clear on the mission, very clear on the mission and working the plan. Everything else, guess what it gets? A "no," until you've reached that mission or until you're significantly on your way, then you have free resources to be able to focus elsewhere.*



I made the steps to seriously define my mission many years ago. I like to read books about focusing; it is a passion of mine. I took a lot of time to define my life mission. It came down to two words which are oversimplified for most people. When I take these two words and apply them to any part, in any moment of my life, they make me stop and look and often change direction. My mission in life is two words: Honor God. I have thought through what it is to honor God in my family life, work life, spiritual life, with the brotherhood, with my children and grandchildren. Whenever I am going down a road that may be a little marginal, those two words make me think.

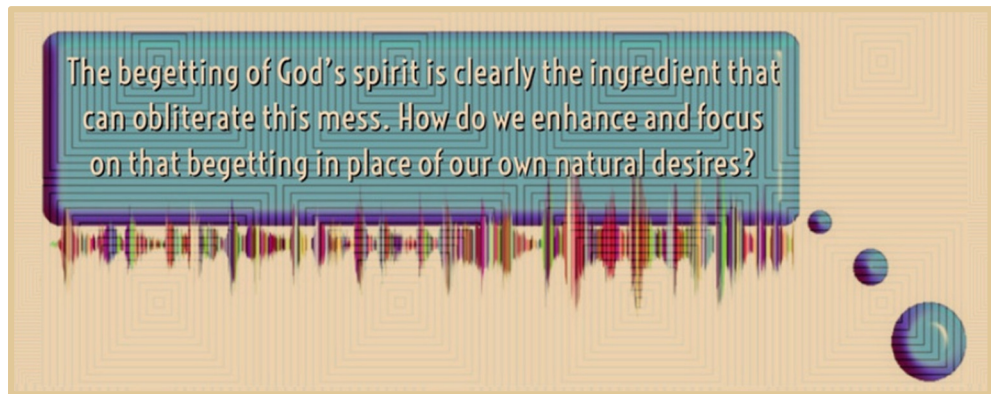
**Now that James has identified the culprit of our double-minded folly as our own natural desires, he lays out the remedy:**

*<sup>5</sup>Or do you think that the Scripture speaks to no purpose: He jealously desires the Spirit which He has made to dwell in us?*

*Side note: Some have said that Paul and James were at odds - that Paul preached faith and James preached works. Not true! James had great respect for the Apostle Paul and here quotes Paul calling it "Scripture." They were both single-minded. They were fighting the same fight and they supported each other and were building each other up.*

**1 Corinthians 6:19-20:** (NASB) *<sup>19</sup>Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? <sup>20</sup>For you have been bought with a price: therefore, glorify God in your body.*

Your body is the temple of God. It holds the power and influence of God.



It is setting up barriers in our lives so that our fleshly desires are diminished. For me, one example is that I had *Direct TV* which I got to watch football. It was too much money and took up way too much time. I got lazy and started watching movies at night. I said to my wife one morning, "I am not going to waste this time anymore. I am going to get rid of the 200 channels and save time and money and find a provider with very few options." I did, and I added study and exercise in the evenings.

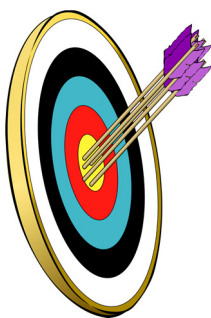
The natural desires were put aside.

James 4:6-10: (NASB) <sup>6</sup>*But He gives a greater grace. Therefore, it says, God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble.* <sup>7</sup>*Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.*

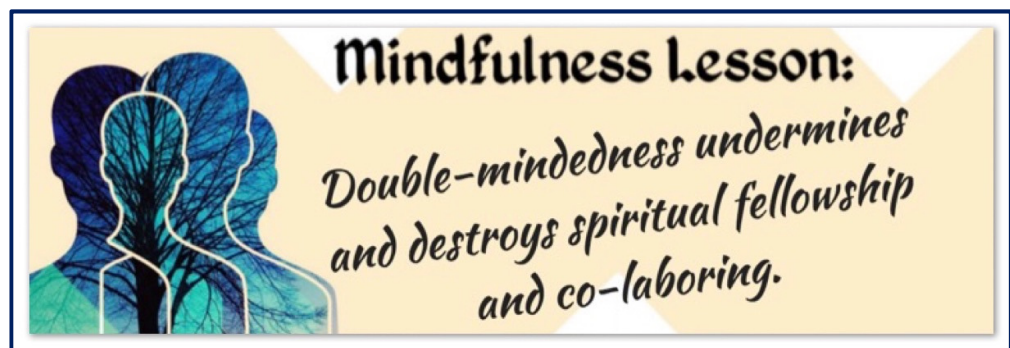
Make the choice - choose this day whom ye will serve! Joshua 24:15.  
Submit to one and resist the other!

Once you have decided, then **FOLLOW THROUGH** with decisive and single-minded steps:

<sup>8</sup>*Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.* <sup>9</sup>*Be miserable and mourn and weep; let your laughter be turned into mourning and your joy to gloom.* <sup>10</sup>*Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you.*



Know your target, focus on your target and move towards it. Clean up your actions and get your heart right! When we are dealing with one another we need to be clear and careful that we are not hurting others in our choices.



The state of mind can have a dramatic effect on the brotherhood around us.





## How does double-mindedness hinder or even break up our everyday interpersonal relationships?

If something has a rotten core, you can be sure that what comes from it will be rotten as well. For the Christian, being double-minded is akin to having that rotten core, for we have essentially taken the name of Jesus and spoiled it. How does *that* look to those who look at us as ambassadors for Christ? It looks like polluting the reflection of Jesus.



 Something more than this, *Stop Sabotaging Yourself*, Debi Silber, TEDx

- And finally, take Greg, who for the last 20 years has been meeting up with his buddies every week where they get together, grab a beer and complain about their jobs and their wives. And one day it hits him, "You know, there's got to be something more than this." So, Greg decides to do some personal development work. He starts watching a few TED Talks. After a couple weeks, he's becoming inspired. He's learning how he's growing, and he realizes it's not fun to complain about his job anymore, especially without a plan to do something about it. When he sees his friends, of course he wants to talk to them about it. He's all lit up, he wants to share what he's learning. Secretly he's hoping to inspire them, too. Instead, they just make fun of him and his new ways. As they do, this is when Greg realizes he's outgrown them. He has less and less in common with them and he feels torn. He'd have to explain way too much if he stops meeting up with them each week.



That is a great example because it is something that happens to many people quietly - the realization that life is not what it should be and something different is needed. They start to gain the strength and direction and then meet with resistance. All of a sudden that power and inspiration starts to falter, and they begin to question their decision and double-mindedness comes back into play.

**The Apostle Paul is specific in what single-minded spiritual attitude and behavior actually look like. This is how we reflect our Christianity to the world through our everyday life:**

**Galatians 5:13-14:** (NASB) <sup>13</sup>For you were called to freedom, brethren; only do not turn your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. <sup>14</sup>For the whole Law is fulfilled in one word, in the statement, you shall love your neighbor as yourself <sup>15</sup>But if you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

Our single-minded witness to the world is fundamentally attached to our internal personal behaviors as well as our external fellowship behavior.



As those called to freedom we must live as free! How we treat each other within the body of Christ is going to reflect outside to everybody else. How does that look if we are biting and devouring one another?

**Galatians 5:16-21: (NASB)** *<sup>16</sup>But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh. <sup>17</sup>For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please. <sup>18</sup>But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law.*

The beginning of a single-minded spiritual witness to those around you is the constant display of how we handle ourselves in private, amongst ourselves and in public! We need to continually ask ourselves, "What do others see when they look at me?"



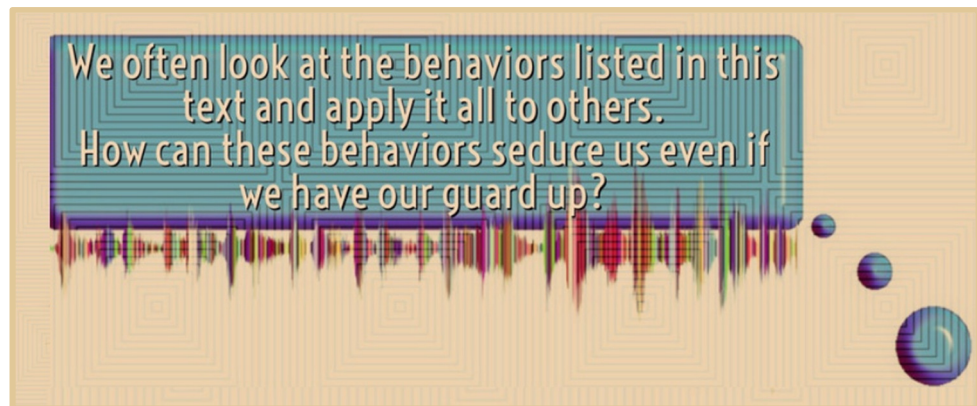
**Focus needs progress, *How to Stay Focused*, [brendonburchard.com](http://brendonburchard.com)**

- And here's another thing, focus goes out the window when we don't have progress. If we're not progressing towards something our focus goes out the window; we just don't pay attention to anything, we don't feel good about ourselves. You want to get more focus in your life? Get more progress. As you progress more you start to get excited, you start to pay attention to the things that are working and moving you forward. Then you start to find more focus in your life.*

We need to be progressing in our mission and single-mindedness to serve Christ. If we are not progressing, we get bored, lose interest and become double-minded.

**How do we come across to people in general who are on the outside looking in?**

*<sup>19</sup>Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, <sup>20</sup>idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, <sup>21</sup>envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.*



We need to ask ourselves, "What are my weaknesses? How can I improve in these areas?" Look at this list and apply it to ourselves and not towards others. Our good choices can gain victory. Live your life with grace as Jesus did and that list of awful things can become diminished.



### Now, a wonderful list:

<sup>22</sup>But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup>gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. <sup>24</sup>Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. <sup>25</sup>If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. <sup>26</sup>Let us not become boastful, challenging one another, envying one another.

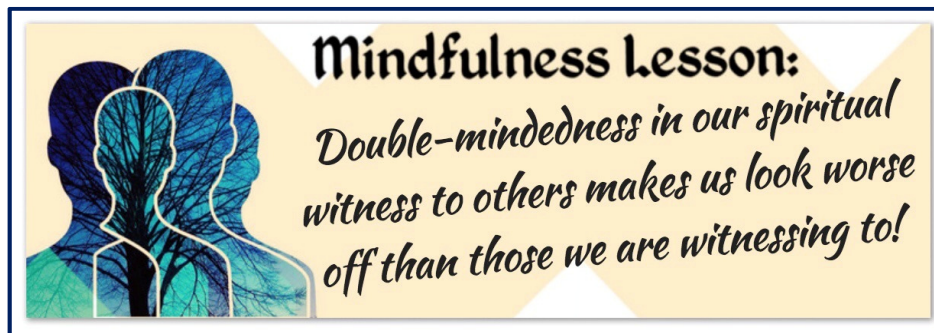
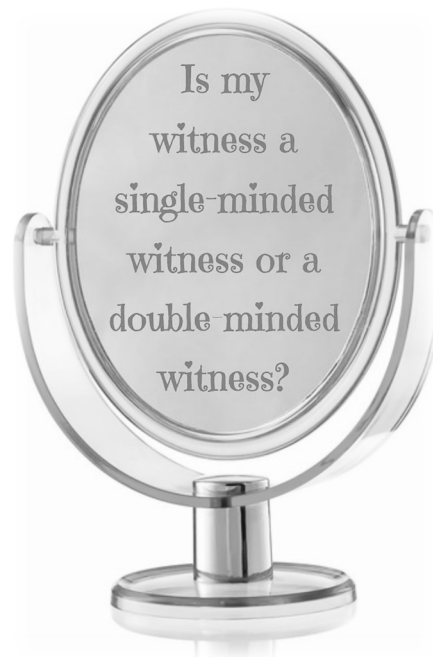
Paul pours out remedy characteristics for fleshly and double-minded behavior. He reminds us that the spirit brings us life and in turn we are to walk according to its guidance and instruction, which means applying love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. This is how we become more single-minded.

What do people see when they look at you? Do they see someone who stands out with these characteristics or do they see someone who blends in with everybody else? Is my witness a single-minded or a double-minded witness?

1 Peter 2:11-12: (NASB) <sup>11</sup>Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul. <sup>12</sup>Keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may because of your good deeds, as they observe them, glorify God in the day of visitation.

As aliens and strangers, we need to be acting differently. We need to stand for what is right even if we are persecuted or ridiculed by others. Our example will be remembered later during the Day of Judgment when those who persecuted us will have to account for all they have said and done and will glorify God and say, "I saw an example of that in my life. I made fun of it then, but I learned from it now."

Our external witness now will have eternal effects later. Single-mindedness is serious business!



Our double-mindedness will make Jesus look bad.





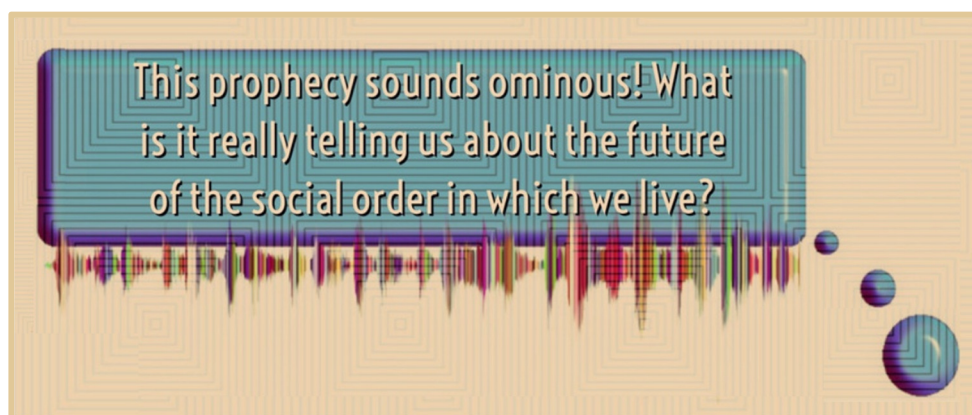
**If we are single-minded in personal experiences,  
fellowship and with everyone else, what's left?**

Somebody once said that the price for success is paid in full and upfront. To finish our "in full" payment to being single-minded Christians, we need to now focus on our world view. Prophecy does dictate how we should see the world. The question is, do we see the world through prophetic eyes?

**Peter helps us to grab hold of our prophetic glasses, so we can see the world in a spiritually single-minded fashion:**

2 Peter 3:10-11,13: (NASB) <sup>10</sup>*But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up.*

The earth is not going to be destroyed. This is a figurative, not literal, expression. It is a burning up of the present systems because they need to be replaced with future systems.



As Christians, do not be worldly focused. Forget politics! We are ambassadors for Christ and are not citizens of this world. We represent God's kingdom to come. This present evil world will be replaced. Do not hold onto what is falling apart. Satan's present evil world will be destroyed and replaced with Christ's kingdom which will be full of mercy for the world of mankind. The social order of this world will end (not the literal earth).

<sup>11</sup>*Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness...* <sup>13</sup>*But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.*

A spiritually single-minded view of the world accepts the trouble of today as the necessary precursor to the righteousness of tomorrow. The trouble of this day has been prophesied. God said it must happen! We should not be trying to fix or prevent what has to happen.

 **Always say, "No," *How to Stay Focused*, [brendonburchard.com](http://brendonburchard.com)**

- The last idea is so very, very, very simple, and I hope you will practice it. Once you have that mission your job is to try this, just for a little while. I know it's going to be uncomfortable and you're going to hate the idea, especially coming from me. I just want you to say no to everything immediately from now on, always. Now, that goes against the grain of*



*what a lot of people say, "No, life is about saying yes." Well yeah, a lot of people have said yes to everything and that's why they're miserable. I want you to say no just at first, just so you can check it against your mission. If something comes up and you can do it, and you're excited about it and someone asks you to do something, just say no first. It will teach you to say, "No, I'm going to evaluate that first. I'm going to put some thought to this to see, should I focus on this right now in my life? Yes or no." And build some criteria for yourself.*

Until you have your mission so thoroughly set in your mind, you have to be on guard, because there are so many ways to easily get derailed and become double-minded. *Selah* - pause and consider.

### The comparison between present day earthly wisdom and eternal heavenly wisdom:

**1 Corinthians 2:6-10:** (NASB) *<sup>6</sup>Yet we do speak wisdom among those who are mature; a wisdom, however, not of this age nor of the rulers of this age, who are passing away; <sup>7</sup>but we speak God's wisdom in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God predestined before the ages to our glory; <sup>8</sup>the wisdom which none of the rulers of this age has understood; for if they had understood it they would not have crucified the Lord of glory;*

Earthly wisdom and spiritual wisdom are rarely in agreement and if we are trying to use both, we are being hostile towards God. A double-minded Christian may easily fall into the trap of seeing God's plan fitting into the present day and the present way. This was the mistake of the Pharisees and others back then and continues to be a mistake of many religious groups.

 ***Thinking and change are hard, Stop Sabotaging Yourself, Debi Silber, TEDx***

- *Going back to what you know, sabotaging your success, it seems like the much better option. I mean, yes, it keeps you small, but you also feel it keeps you safe because your head is spinning with ideas like: Will these changes lead me to lose my friends, my job security? Will you hear how selfish or crazy you are? Will you have to deal with judgment or criticism at the same time you're dealing with your own self-doubt about what you're up to? These are big questions. Thinking is hard. Change - that's even harder. Because these changes could impact so much, create such a snowball, such a domino effect, you'd do everything you can to make the feelings go away.*

Our gut reaction is we see the value of the change, we see the power of the change and the inspiration of the change, and then we try to fight the change. We try to ignore or downplay it. That is being stuck in double-mindedness.

To be spirit-minded is to see God's plan as a REMEDY for the present day and the present way which means that these present things are the illness for which God's plan provides a CURE! We need spiritual antibiotics to kill the infection of sin in the world.



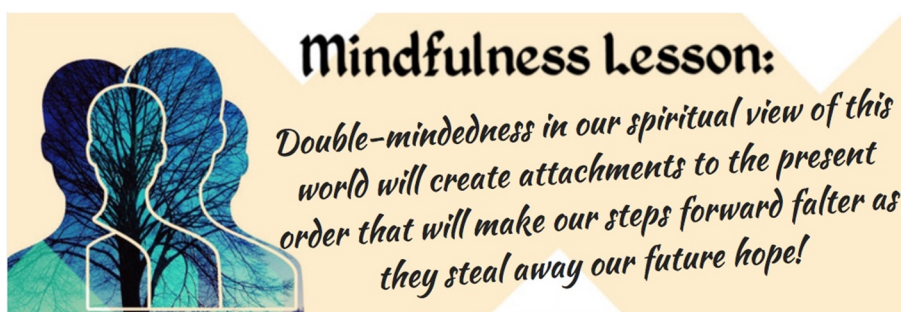
*<sup>9</sup>but just as it is written, things which eye has not seen, and ear has not heard, and which have not entered the heart of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him. <sup>10</sup>For to us God revealed them through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God.*



To be spiritually single-minded as we view our world is to thoroughly adopt and embrace the hope of prophecy based upon Jesus' ransom sacrifice and to let go of this world! God's got this!

There are a lot of good causes in the world. As Christians, are we supposed to be getting behind all of those good causes?

Listen for more on what we should support, coming up on our April 16, 2018, Episode 1017: "Who and What Should a Christian Support?"



If we are a Christian and we are double-minded, we end up creating attachments to this world.

2 Corinthians 10:5: (NASB) *We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ.*

It is a choice! Decide to be single-minded and to act on that single-mindedness. Have that mission and make it move you so that your single-mindedness for Christ ends up being an honor and glory to God and Jesus our Lord.

*So, am I a double-minded Christian?  
For Jonathan and Rick and Christian Questions...  
Think about it...!*



Join us next week for our April 16, 2018, podcast,  
"Who and What Should a Christian Support?"





## Bonus Material!

To be double-minded is to have part of your mind engaged in each world for earthly influences are present and powerful.

### The only way to truly combat that power is by spiritual influence:

1 Corinthians 2:12-16: (NASB) <sup>12</sup>Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God, <sup>13</sup>which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words.

### How does this look in our world?

<sup>14</sup>But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised. <sup>15</sup>But he who is spiritual appraises all things, yet he himself is appraised by no one. <sup>16</sup>For who has known the mind of the lord, that he will instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

Why do we see the world the way we see it? Are we seeing it through eyes that have a singular focus or are we seeing with double vision?

Isaiah 29:13-14: (NASB) <sup>13</sup>Then the Lord said, Because this people draw near with their words And honor Me with their lip service, But they remove their hearts far from Me, And their reverence for Me consists of tradition learned by rote, <sup>14</sup>Therefore behold, I will once again deal marvelously with this people, wondrously marvelous; And the wisdom of their wise men will perish, And the discernment of their discerning men will be concealed."

### Establishing a spiritual single-minded approach has much to do with what we want - what we covet:

Romans 13:9: (KJV) For this, thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not **covet <1937>**; and if there be any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

**Covet:** Strong's #1937 from 1909 and 2372; to set the heart upon, i.e. long for (rightfully or otherwise)

### This next verse also mentions coveting, though it uses a different word:

1 Corinthians 12:31: (KJV) But **covet earnestly <2206>** the best gifts: and yet shew I unto you a more excellent way.

**Covet earnestly:** Strong's #2206 to have warmth of feeling for or against  
1) to burn with zeal 1a) to be heated or to boil with envy, hatred, anger  
1a1) in a good sense, to be zealous in the pursuit of good

These New Testament words are "colorful" in a way - they seem to be more deeply filled with emotion and that emotion can either have a very negative impact or a very positive impact on our lives:

### Negative emotional impact examples:

Matthew 5:28: (NKJV) <sup>28</sup>But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to **lust <1937>** for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

Acts 7:9: (KJV) And the patriarchs, moved with **envy <2206>**, sold Joseph into Egypt: but God was with him...



### Positive emotional impact examples:

Matthew 13:17: (NKJV) <sup>17</sup>for assuredly, I say to you that many prophets and righteous men **desired** <1937> to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.

1Timothy 3:1: (KJV) This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he **desireth** <1937> a good work.

Whatever way you slice it, coveting or desire is strong, lingering and transformative!

