

# WINNER'S GUIDE

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**Week 2: February 17—23**

## HOW TO THINK EXCEPTIONALLY

### **SHARE (Optional):**

Each week we invite one or two people to briefly share their life stories, explaining what has brought them to where they are today. Who would like to share today?

### **CONNECT:**

- What makes you smile?
- When you think of someone (other than Jesus) in history who thought of the world differently than his or her current culture, who comes to mind and why?
- Who is or was one of the most positive influences in your life? What about the most negative?

### **GROW:**

**Watch Video Clip #1** (approx. 7 min. with intro)

Is there anything from this clip that convicts you or inspires you? Explain.

**Winners think exceptionally. They think differently than how “the world thinks.” They think differently than how they once used to think.**

Do you think you are generally more optimistic or pessimistic in though out your own thought process? What do you think the people around you would say regarding the way you tend to see the world and speak about those in it? Optimistic or Pessimistic? Hopeful or hopeless? Generally inspired or frustrated?

Is there anything you would like to change about the way you currently tend to think? Explain.

Do you think there are any advantages in having a negative attitude or outlook in life? Why?

What are your own observations regarding positive versus negative attitudes in the workplace and home?

What do you think it takes to permanently or progressively change a person’s mind or attitude?

**Read Romans 12:2.**

**Watch Video Clip #2** (approx. 5 min)

Is there anything from this clip that convicts you or inspires you? Explain.

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There is a conflict between how culture wants you to think and how God wants to change your thinking.

Do you agree with the idea that culture is out to get you? Why?

Can you think of any other examples where culture baits you and then discards you?

Read the following Scriptures and review the eight ways to renew your mind. Share what each way could look like if applied to your own life and any additional thoughts you may have.

## **Eight ways to renew your mind and think exceptionally:**

- 1. Surrender...** instead of fighting God's will and God's ways. Read Romans 12:1
- 2. Find your lane and run your race...** instead of comparing yourself to those around you. Read Romans 12:3
- 3. Think like a team player...** instead of making it all about you. Read Romans 12:5
- 4. Pay attention...** instead of ignoring the tension going on inside of you. Read Romans 12:9
- 5. Do what's best for people...** instead of avoiding people who have problems. Read Romans 12:10
- 6. Stay on the field...** instead of retiring from God's Kingdom work. Read Romans 12:11
- 7. Lean in...** instead of trying to live and solve problems according to your own wisdom. Read Romans 12:13
- 8. Love those who don't love you...** instead of wishing difficulties upon them. Read Romans 12:14-20 & Matthew 5:43-45

**Watch Video Clip #3** (approx. 3 min)

## **MOVE:**

- Pick at least one of the eight ways to renew your mind this week. Share which one you pick.
- This week, read Romans 12 and memorize Romans 12:2.

## **THINK:**

How might thinking exceptionally become a skill worth developing and displaying to win the day?

## **PRAY:**

Write down prayer requests and answered prayer:

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