

# OPEN-HANDED OPINIONS

WHY BEES WRITE PLANS IN PENCIL



## **ROMANS 7:19–25**

**FOR I DO NOT DO THE GOOD I WANT TO DO, BUT THE EVIL I DO NOT WANT TO DO—THIS I KEEP ON DOING. NOW IF I DO WHAT I DO NOT WANT TO DO, IT IS NO LONGER I WHO DO IT, BUT IT IS SIN LIVING IN ME THAT DOES IT. SO I FIND THIS LAW AT WORK: ALTHOUGH I WANT TO DO GOOD, EVIL IS RIGHT THERE WITH ME. FOR IN MY INNER BEING I DELIGHT IN GOD'S LAW; BUT I SEE ANOTHER LAW AT WORK IN ME, WAGING WAR AGAINST THE LAW OF MY MIND AND MAKING ME A PRISONER OF THE LAW OF SIN AT WORK WITHIN ME.**

**WHAT A WRETCHED MAN I AM! WHO WILL RESCUE ME FROM THIS BODY THAT IS SUBJECT TO DEATH? THANKS BE TO GOD, WHO DELIVERS ME THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD! SO THEN, I MYSELF IN MY MIND AM A SLAVE TO GOD'S LAW, BUT IN MY SINFUL NATURE A SLAVE TO THE LAW OF SIN.**

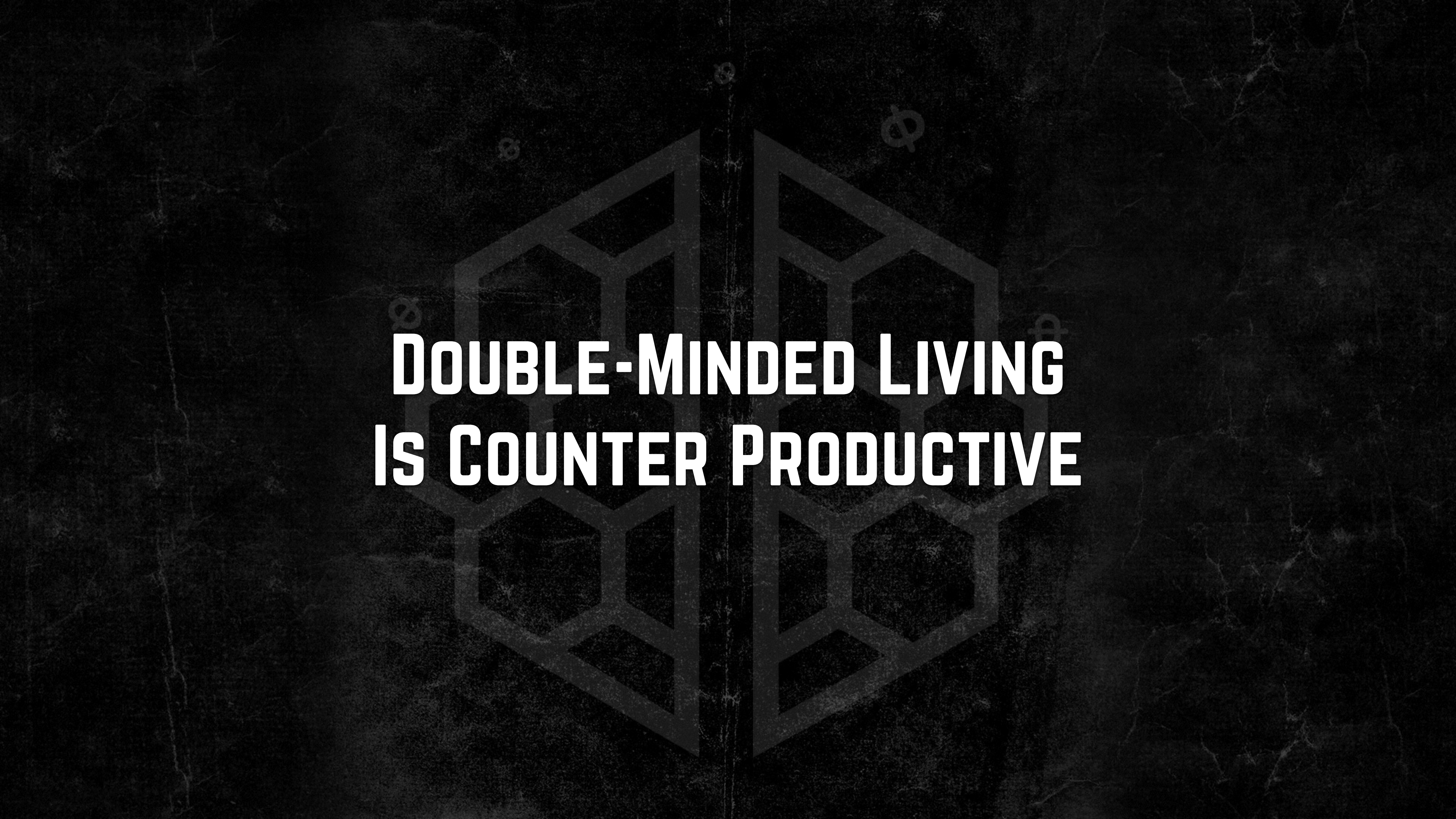
**ROMANS 7:19–25**



**WE GET TO CHOOSE OUR MINDSET**

**IF ANY OF YOU LACKS WISDOM, YOU SHOULD ASK GOD, WHO GIVES GENEROUSLY TO ALL WITHOUT FINDING FAULT, AND IT WILL BE GIVEN TO YOU. BUT WHEN YOU ASK, YOU MUST BELIEVE AND NOT DOUBT, BECAUSE THE ONE WHO DOUBTS IS LIKE A WAVE OF THE SEA, BLOWN AND TOSSED BY THE WIND. THAT PERSON SHOULD NOT EXPECT TO RECEIVE ANYTHING FROM THE LORD. SUCH A PERSON IS DOUBLE-MINDED AND UNSTABLE IN ALL THEY DO.**

**JAMES 1:5-8**



**DOUBLE-MINDED LIVING  
IS COUNTER PRODUCTIVE**

## **ROMANS 8:5-9**

**THOSE WHO LIVE ACCORDING TO THE FLESH HAVE THEIR MINDS SET ON WHAT THE FLESH DESIRES; BUT THOSE WHO LIVE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SPIRIT HAVE THEIR MINDS SET ON WHAT THE SPIRIT DESIRES. THE MIND GOVERNED BY THE FLESH IS DEATH, BUT THE MIND GOVERNED BY THE SPIRIT IS LIFE AND PEACE. THE MIND GOVERNED BY THE FLESH IS HOSTILE TO GOD; IT DOES NOT SUBMIT TO GOD'S LAW, NOR CAN IT DO SO. THOSE WHO ARE IN THE REALM OF THE FLESH**

**CANNOT PLEASE GOD. YOU, HOWEVER, ARE NOT IN THE REALM OF THE FLESH BUT ARE IN THE REALM OF THE SPIRIT, IF INDEED THE SPIRIT OF GOD LIVES IN YOU.**

**ROMANS 8:5–9**



**WHY SHOULD WE CHOOSE  
THE MIND OF THE SPIRIT?**

**THE MIND OF THE SPIRIT IS**

**LIFE**

**PEACE**

**PLEASING**

**IDENTITY AFFIRMING**

**THE ONE WHO TRUSTS IN CHRIST'S WORK FOR BEING PUT RIGHT FORENSICALLY SHOULD ALSO TRUST IN CHRIST'S WORK FOR BEING PUT RIGHT BEHAVIORALLY. INSTEAD OF MERELY TRYING TO CONTROL THEIR SINFUL IMPULSES (THOUGH SELF-CONTROL IS ALSO A FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT), BELIEVERS MAY BE CONSCIOUS THAT CHRIST IS LIVING THROUGH THEM.**

**CRAIG KEENER**

# PERSONAL IDENTITY INFORMS PERSONAL ACTIVITY

IF I BELIEVE I AM AN **EMPOWERED** AND **FULLY FREED**  
DAUGHTER OR SON OF GOD, I WILL EXERCISE THAT IDENTITY  
WHEN I FACE CHALLENGES OR TEMPTATIONS.

# **CORPORATE IDENTITY INFORMS CORPORATE ACTIVITY**

**IF WE BELIEVE, AS A FAMILY, A GROUP OR A CHURCH, THAT **WE**  
**HAVE** THE MIND OF CHRIST AND CAN **LIVE FULLY** IN  
ACCORDANCE WITH THE SPIRIT, OUR DEMEANOR WILL DRIVE  
OUR DECISIONS.**

# **CORPORATE IDENTITY INFORMS CORPORATE ACTIVITY**

**IF WE BELIEVE, AS A FAMILY, A GROUP OR A CHURCH, THAT **WE**  
**HAVE** THE MIND OF CHRIST AND CAN **LIVE FULLY** IN  
ACCORDANCE WITH THE SPIRIT, OUR DEMEANOR WILL DRIVE  
OUR DECISIONS.**

**WE HAVE THE MIND OF CHRIST.**  
**WE HOLD A CHRIST-CENTERED WISDOM TOGETHER.**

**WE HAVE THE MIND OF CHRIST.**  
**WE CURRENTLY POSSESS THE MIND OF CHRIST.**

**WE HAVE THE MIND OF CHRIST.**  
**THE MIND OF CHRIST IS SINGULAR AND CLEAR.**

**WE HAVE THE MIND OF CHRIST.**  
**THE MIND OF CHRIST IS COHERENT AND RATIONAL.**

**WE HAVE THE MIND OF CHRIST.**  
**TO THINK LIKE JESUS, WE MUST KNOW JESUS.**

# SERENITY PRAYER

BY **REINHOLD NIEBUHR**

GOD GRANT ME THE SERENITY TO ACCEPT THE THINGS I CANNOT CHANGE; THE COURAGE TO CHANGE THE THINGS I CAN; AND THE WISDOM TO KNOW THE DIFFERENCE. LIVING ONE DAY AT A TIME; ENJOYING ONE MOMENT AT A TIME; ACCEPTING HARDSHIPS AS A PATHWAY TO PEACE; TAKING, AS JESUS DID, THIS SINFUL WORLD AS IT IS, NOT AS I WOULD HAVE IT; TRUSTING THAT YOU WILL MAKE ALL THINGS RIGHT IF I SURRENDER TO YOUR WILL; SO THAT I MAY BE REASONABLY HAPPY IN THIS LIFE AND SUPREMELY HAPPY WITH YOU FOREVER AND EVER IN THE NEXT. AMEN.

# PRAYER OF INDIFFERENCE

RUTH HALEY BARTON

**“I AM INDIFFERENT TO ANYTHING BUT GOD’S WILL.”**

**IT IS A STATE OF WIDE OPENNESS TO GOD IN WHICH WE ARE FREE FROM UNDUE ATTACHMENTS AND HAVE THE CAPACITY TO RELINQUISH WHATEVER MIGHT KEEP US FROM CHOOSING FOR GOD AND FOR LOVE IN THE WORLD. IT IS A PRAYER IN WHICH WE ABANDON OURSELVES TO GOD.**



ARTPRIZE

# The Preachers



# **PRAYER FOR UNITY**

**WHENEVER GOD LEADS A GROUP OF PEOPLE TO HIS WILL, HE WILL  
LEAD THEM ALL TO THE SAME CONCLUSION, OVER TIME.**

**JOE ALDRICH**

**CRITICAL QUESTIONS ARE ANSWERED  
IN COMMUNION WITH CHRIST**

**NOW IN THE CHURCH AT ANTIOCH THERE WERE PROPHETS AND TEACHERS: BARNABAS, SIMEON CALLED NIGER, LUCIUS OF CYRENE, MANAEN (WHO HAD BEEN BROUGHT UP WITH HEROD THE TETRARCH) AND SAUL. WHILE THEY WERE WORSHIPING THE LORD AND FASTING, THE HOLY SPIRIT SAID, “SET APART FOR ME BARNABAS AND SAUL FOR THE WORK TO WHICH I HAVE CALLED THEM.” SO AFTER THEY HAD FASTED AND PRAYED, THEY PLACED THEIR HANDS ON THEM AND SENT THEM OFF.”**

**ACTS 13:1–3**