

LESSON 01



# Fundamentos

The Counsel of God

# Introduction

## The Counsel of God



*by Edmar Ferreira*

*Fundamentals* is a teaching program formed by the apostolic council of the church, under the *responsibility* of pastors Marcos Moraes, Vanjo Souza, Edmar Ferreira, João Bium, Manoel Rocha, and Mário Fagundes.

The program relies on various platforms and media formats to spread the basic teaching of the Word of God uniformly throughout the church.

For each lesson, there are corresponding videos, audios, and written texts. All indexed by the same number.

Fundamentals has a website: [www.fundamentos.me](http://www.fundamentos.me). It will include all the lessons and media produced and made available.

Questions and requests can be made by e-mail [contato@fundamentos.me](mailto:contato@fundamentos.me).

In this initial lesson of Fundamentals, we will present content of initial orientation to the church regarding the security of the counsel of God for our lives.

Psalms 139 shows the psalmist's effort to try to share some of the breadth of our Lord's thought.



*How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! How great is the sum of them! If I should count them, they would be more in number than the sand; When I awake, I am still with You.*

### **Psalms 139:17-18**

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## **1) The counsel of God**

*What do you understand by counsel? When someone asks you for counsel, what does it mean?*

Talking about “the counsel of God” means seeing the breadth of God’s thoughts. How many thoughts flood our Creator’s mind?

According to Psalms 139:17-18, it would be like trying to count the grains of sand on the beach. Do you think this analogy is possible? It is a beautiful attempt to help us see the greatness of our God's thoughts.

All those who convert to Christ become part of the family of God. And our challenge, as Christians on the walk, is to be in understanding of this thought.

Now, the counsel of God must also be seen by the timeline. It precedes the creation of the world and follows its end. It encompasses (*past eternity as well as future eternity.*)

Jesus, at the end of His earthly ministry, before ascending to heaven, left something very important for His followers, a more concise way of understanding the breadth of God's thoughts.

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*And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen*

### **Mt 28:18-20**

The Lord told us to go and make disciples, spreading His teachings throughout the world, preaching to all nations, baptizing repentant people and teaching them to keep all His teachings. That was a clear command.

### **A COMMAND**

This command is part of a Christian responsibility, it is part of God's counsel to rescue people, form lives, scatter His family on earth, and save the soul of a lost man.

From Genesis to Revelation there is a glimpse of the counsel of God given its magnitude and virtue. But, as mentioned earlier, Jesus clearly summarized this counsel when He said that we should teach people who were converted to Him to keep all the things that He taught and preached.

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## **2) Obeying Jesus' command**

*Is there any New Testament account of someone who obeyed Jesus' command in Mt 28:18-20?*

Yes, the apostle Paul. He took the counsel of God as the mission of his life and ministry. He dedicated his days of his life to the redemptive work of Christ.

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*How I kept back nothing that was helpful, but proclaimed it to you, and taught you publicly and from house to house. For I have not shunned to declare to you the whole counsel of God. Therefore watch, and remember that for three years I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears.*

### **Acts 20:20, 27, 31**

Paul's commitment to obey Jesus' command manifested itself day and night, with tears, dangers, love, helplessness, and perseverance. He continued to insist in the counsel's teaching to save lives. And that sheds light on our ministerial agenda and demand of service.

This text describes Paul's commitment to apply in his ministry the command that the Lord Jesus gave us in Matthew 28:18-20 "...teaching them to observe all things...".

### Characteristics of Paul's ministerial action (service):

1	THREE YEARS	(CONTINUITY)
2	DAY AND NIGHT	(INTENSITY)
3	I HAVE NOT CEASED TO ADMONISH	(CONCENTRATION)
4	WITH TEARS	(SACRIFICE)
5	TO EACH ONE	(SIMPLICITY)

Paul's ministerial action was gradual and continuous. He was preparing the flock for what was to come in the near future, for the cunning heresies and confusions that would arise in the life of the church.

God left these records so we wouldn't be lost without direction. The more we dwell on the The Holy Scriptures, the more educated, mature, and grounded we will be in the knowledge of God.



*All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

### 2 Tm 3:16,17

*Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor tands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful; But his delight is in the law of the Lord, And in His law he meditates day and night.*

### Ps 1:1-2

The counsel of the ungodly is everywhere, but God said that blessed is he who does not walk in this counsel, or assimilates to the way of life of unbelievers.

### 3) Not being molded to the shape of the world

*Are we clear about what every design/advice/purpose of God means and how we should remain in it?*

Generally speaking, the church is not aware of it, and it is very likely that even those with whom we relate and teach these things do not understand it clearly. It is possible that they relate it to the areas of the “way”, an expression agreed by us to define the content of the truths and commandments that must be ministered after conversion.

The cunning heresies and the deceptions that entered the church back then, and that have also manifested in our day, can only be fought if we have the discernment of the counsel of God clear in our minds.



*I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.*

#### **Rom 12:1-2**

Not walking in the counsel of the ungodly means not wanting to assimilate to their way of life, to the advice filled with satanic things that they profess. If there is no fear or knowledge of God, any advice or opinion of the ungodly will be filled with deceit, lying, and confusion.

To speak of the counsel of God is to be filled with content, with grace, with the ability to have a perfect life and also to be perfectly equipped for every good work.

When we are converted, there is a change of kingdom. It is another reality, change of mind, as in verses 1 and 2 of Romans 12.

The text of Psalms 1:1-2 warns the Christian about rejecting the teaching, opinion, and counsel of people who do not fear God. What sensible counsel could they give us?

#### **4) Battleground in the mind: a warning**

*How many convert and forget to break away from the counsel of the ungodly or from their relationship with the ungodly?*

The text of Romans 12:1-2 warns us about “being transformed by the renewing of our mind”. In our thoughts is, perhaps, the biggest battleground we face. Deception is born in the mind. And we will give an account to God, also, of our thoughts. Remember this!

Our mind and our thoughts are integral parts of our being. We cannot think that our thoughts are harmless; they can lead us astray and deprive us of truly knowing God, as well as keeping us from experiencing God’s true will. Being transformed by the renewing of the mind is very meaningful and challenging.

Our thoughts must result from the Word of God, being molded after the Creator’s counsel. Let’s make the Holy Bible our mold. Only then will we have a transformed mind.

Our thoughts must be filled with the counsel of God; and our sanctification involves our thoughts.

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## CONCLUSION

In this first lesson of Fundamentals, we talk about the counsel of God, which is set from Genesis to Revelation, and is revealed to us by the Holy Spirit through the Holy Bible. The counsel of God is all that He has ordained, established, left recorded for our teaching, correction, guidance, growth, sanctification. And everything that is not in accordance with what God thinks (His Word and doctrine) is the advice of the ungodly and we must reject it. **God's counsel is absolute.**

## CONSIDER CAREFULLY

- 01 The counsel of God is very broad, it encompasses past eternity and future eternity;
- 02 In our minds there is a struggle between the counsel of God and the counsel of the ungodly;
- 03 When we are born again, we are challenged to have a transformed mind, replacing the mind that was according to these times for the mind of our Lord;
- 04 Paul obeyed the Lord's command and devoted three years of his ministry to teaching all the content of the counsel of God;
- 05 Our thoughts must be filled with the counsel of God;
- 06 Our sanctification involves our thoughts, therefore, we must filter them in the light of the Word of God.

### TEXTS FOR FURTHER READING:

Genesis 6:5 e 8:21 | Psalms 94:11 | Ephesians 2:3 | Job 20:2,3  
Romans 15:4 | Acts 20 | 2 Corinthians 10:3 | 1 Corinthians 2:8  
Romans 3:4 | Matthew 22:29

May God bless us to seek and know a little more of His counsel. May we fill ourselves with this truth, so that our thoughts may be transformed in the light of the truth, in the light of the Word of God.



# Fundamentos



*Having been built on the foundation  
of the apostles and prophets,  
Jesus Christ Himself being  
the chief cornerstone.*

*Ephesians 2.20*



Complete Video  
Lesson 01



Summarized Video  
Lesson 01



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