

## The only reliable way to change is to listen to me

You can never say safely that you have your habits under control. Only I can do that.

The way I do it is speak to you.

## God there are so many things in my life I'd like to change.

Mark the sound of my voice all day in your mind, changes you. If you have a conversation with me my voice will fill your mind. That's what changes you. Your own efforts are wasted. My voice is the only solution.

'be transformed by the renewing of your MIND['nous': understanding, receiving God's thoughts through faith].

ROMANS 12:2 NIV

What do you think Mark? If your mind is filled with the words I speak specifically to you each day, is it going to stay the same?

Obviously not. There'll be less and less room for all my negative thoughts.

Not your negative thoughts Mark, his.

I don't want you worrying about the habitual sins, we'll fix those together, I want you focused on his *real* attack.

Remember that he can only lie. He is not often allowed to maim physically, so lies are pretty much all he has. He knows that to succeed his lies must be subtle, stealthy and hard to pick. The nature of a lie is it isn't true, it's not what it seems. So if he hits you with a temptation to think a thought, or to speak out in anger you can be sure he's actually got something else in mind. What you think is the temptation is often not the real one. He'll have a much more damaging goal in mind.

Something much more important. He doesn't care particularly whether you have a moment of anger, he doesn't care if you have problems with a particular type of thought.

He just wants to distract you with the little sins to make sure that you don't listen. That you don't feel worthy of a conversation with me.

No matter what you've done, what you've thought or said in the last ten minutes, I still want to have a conversation with you. And it won't be about telling you off, or letting you think I'm not very pleased with you. So if that's what you hear it's unlikely to be me.