

ACT LIKE A CHRISTIAN, THINK LIKE GOD

Let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. – Romans 12:2



Hawaiian *‘Ike* generally refers to the ability to see, feel and experience an understanding of a subject. *‘Ike* has always been a very important part of Hawaiian life. Similarly, *hō‘ike* means to show, announce, testify, even to share a revelation or disclosure. For example, *Hewahewa* was the *kahuna nui* (high priest), counselor and confidant for King Kamehameha *‘Ekahi*. After the king’s death in 1819, and unaware of the impending arrival of the missionaries a year later, *Hewahewa* receives a *hō‘ike* and instructs his *awa-chewer* to run in front of the house, near the shore where the royal family were living and announce: *“E ka lanī e, ina aku Ke Akua a pae mai!”* (‘O Chief, the God will soon land yonder). The *awa-chewer* then, pointed to the exact spot on the sandy beach, where a few days later, a small missionary group would land from the two-masted vessel, Thaddeus, bringing with them the Christian faith. In this supernatural encounter, *Hewahewa’s hō‘ike* had predicted the arrival of a new god from the sea and later converted his life to Christianity.

One day, when teaching a children’s lesson on the topic of “imitating” Jesus in our life, the goal was to instruct my students to “copy” and live like Jesus every day. I then asked for volunteers to come to the front of the class and pick a card from the basket with an animal name. The student was to familiarize themselves with the name of the animal, then, imitate the sound that it makes. The class would then, try to guess what animal was selected. As the student reached in the basket, I noticed that he had selected “LAMB”. I asked him if he was prepared to make the sound of the animal and he replied, “Yes”. At my surprise, he made a loud, “ROAR!”. The class instantly responded, “LION! LION! LION!” As people in Jesus Christ, with a completely new identity, you and I need to think and live, knowing who God says we are. And just in case, you haven’t discovered it yet, living up to your new identity in Christ requires the reprogramming of your mind. The Bible says, we need to be “transformed by the renewing of our mind” before we will be able to tap into God’s good, perfect, and pleasing will for us. (Rm. 12:2) The difference between a perpetually defeated believer and a perpetually victorious believer is where they have set their minds. Each day, the battle for your mind is a battle between flesh and the Spirit. Did you know that everything that appears on the screen of a computer is what has been programmed into the computer’s memory? A lot of Christians don’t like what they see coming up on the screen of their lives, but instead of reprogramming their minds, they keep adjusting the screen or rebooting the program. That’s like seeing “LAMB” but, growl like a “LION”. What the brain is to the body, the mind is to the soul. It’s the control center. That’s why it’s important to take every thought captive to Christ (2 Cor.10:5) because not every thought that comes into our mind is of God. Once you change the location of your thinking from earth to heaven, you’ll start seeing things clearly.