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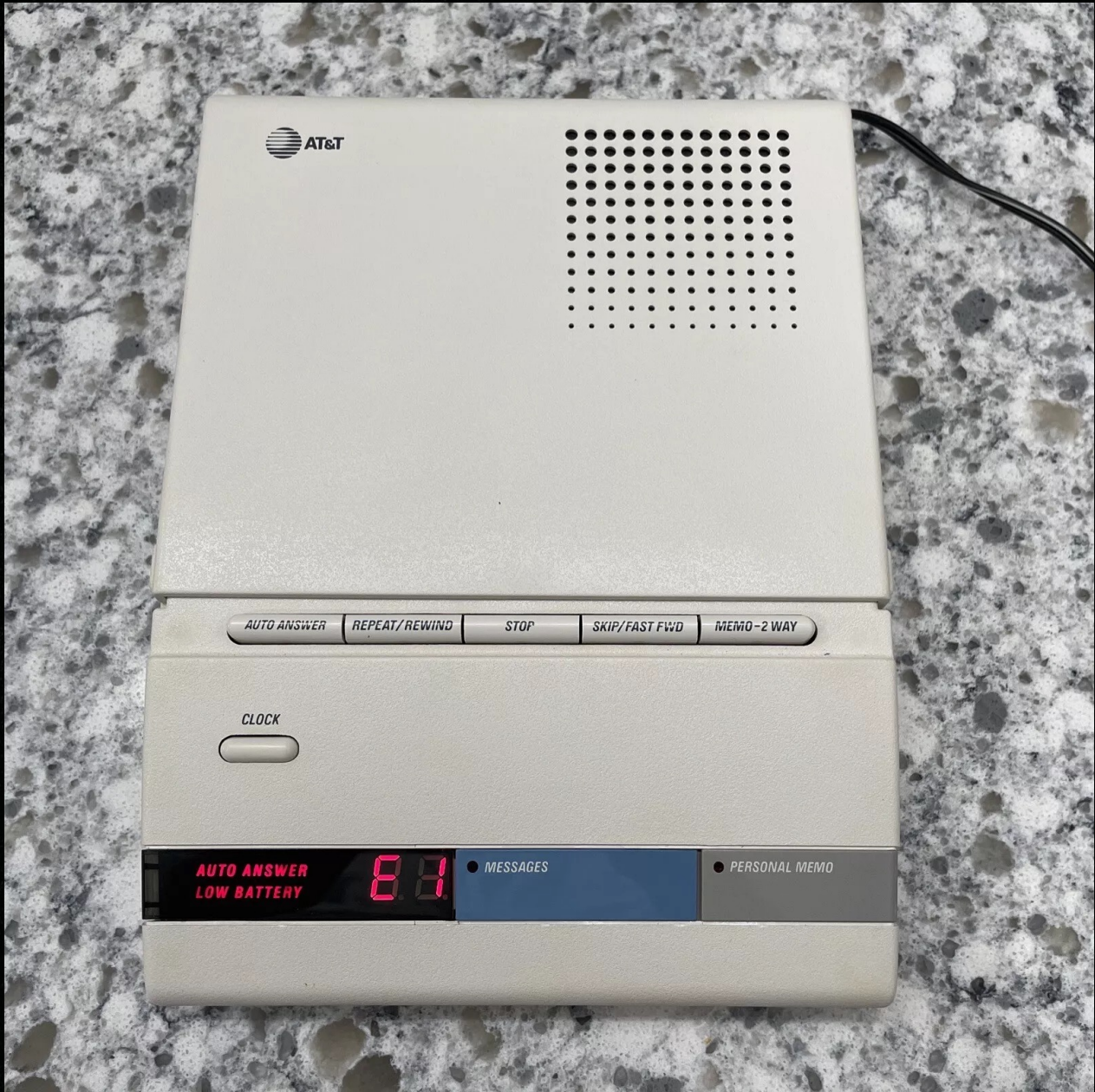
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Romans 12:1-2

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.



IDENTITY

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God



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IDENTITY

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.



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FORMATION

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind

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FORMATION

Mind = the deeply ingrained values and thought patterns that drive the way you live

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FORMATION

“The Christian life, from one angle, is the long journey of letting our natural assumption about who God is, over many decades, fall away, being slowly replaced with God’s own insistence on who he is. This is hard work. It takes a lot of sermons and a lot of suffering to believe that God’s deepest heart is ‘merciful and gracious, slow to anger.’ The fall in Genesis 3 not only sent us into condemnation and exile.



FORMATION

The fall also entrenched in our minds dark thoughts of God, thoughts that are only dug out over multiple exposures to the gospel over many years. Perhaps Satan's greatest victory in your life today is not the sin in which you regularly indulge but the dark thoughts of God's heart that cause you to go there in the first place and keep you cool toward him in the wake of it."

-Dane Ortlund



FORMATION

Hebrews 4: 12-13

For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.



FORMATION

“Rather than thinking of the web and social media as merely neutral tools that merely do whatever users ask of them, it is better to think of them as kinds of spaces that are continually shaping us to think, feel, communicate, and live in certain ways. In other words, the social internet is a liturgical environment.”

-Samuel James



FORMATION

- **We are being formed emotionally.**



FORMATION

- **We are being formed emotionally.**
- **We are being formed mentally.**



FORMATION

- **We are being formed emotionally.**
- **We are being formed mentally.**
- **We are being formed physically.**



FORMATION

- We are being formed emotionally.
- We are being formed mentally.
- We are being formed physically.
- We are being formed relationally.



FORMATION

- We are being formed emotionally.
- We are being formed mentally.
- We are being formed physically.
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- We are being formed politically.



FORMATION

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- We are being formed morally.



FORMATION

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- We are being formed relationally.
- We are being formed politically.
- We are being formed morally.
- We are being formed spiritually.



FORMATION

“The majority of our spiritual decay and barrenness arises from an inordinate admission of other things into our minds for these things weaken grace in all its operations.”

-John Owen



FORMATION

“...There would be little difficulty in maintaining an intense and ardent spirit if we were more faithful in dealing with the habits and indulgences which cling around us and impede our steps. Thousands of Christians are like water-logged vessels. They cannot sink; but they are so saturated with inconsistencies and worldliness and permitted evil that they can only be towed with difficulty into the celestial port.



FORMATION

Is there anything in your life which dissipates your energy from holy things, which disinclines you to the practice of prayer and Bible study, which rises before you in your best moments, and produces in you a general sense of uneasiness and disturbance? something which others account harmless, and permit, and in which you once saw no cause for anxiety, but which you now look on with a feeling of self-condemnation? It is likely enough a weight...”

-FB Meyer



DISCERNMENT

Romans 12:2

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.