



Thursday Thought

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Bumper Stickers & Chickens

Thursday, July 7, 2016

Verse for the week: Romans 12:2 (NLT) Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think.

I find it very relaxing being outside on our porch, sitting in my rocking chair and watching our chickens. At times they can be mean, but usually they are quite humorous. If one chicken spots a bug across the chicken run, they will run after it and soon all of the other chickens are running over to see what's going on. They are very curious creatures. At night when our alpha rooster says it's time to go to bed, they all follow him into the chicken coop. I find it interesting how the chickens flock together and follow each other. Chickens aren't the only ones that flock together and follow each other, people do too. Have you ever seen the bumper sticker "I hope you are following Jesus this closely!"? I have, and to me it's kind of annoying. I think this sign has little to do with Jesus and more to do with tailgaters. I like to read bumper stickers, and sometimes you have to get close to read them. Seriously, isn't that bumper sticker (and others) encouraging tailgaters? Okay off my soap box... My mother always said that "Birds of a feather flock together." I understand now what that means. We tend to hang around those who are like us. The deeper meaning behind my mom saying that phrase repeatedly is that we are who we hang out with, and we need to choose our friends wisely. Far too often we choose friends who we are comfortable with and that keep their mouths shut when we are doing something stupid. We pick people who will agree with us no matter what we are doing, but **Proverbs 27:5-7 (CEV)** says, "A truly good friend will openly correct you." I believe that we should choose friends who can say as Paul said in **1 Corinthians 11:1 (NIV)** "Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ..." I hope I have chosen my friends wisely, and that I don't just follow the flock because that's what everyone else is doing!

Questions to ask yourself: When is the last time you had a friend correct you or you corrected them? Who are you and your friends following?