



UNITY: THE FORGOTTEN TREASURE

ETC Course Handout - Lesson 7

Mind Filters

Course Section	Section 1 - A Diagnostic of the Church's Disunity
Book Connection	Chapter 6 - Mindsets: Jesus' Approach and Mind Filters
Lesson Aim	Discover how inherited assumptions filter Scripture and learn from Jesus how to expose and correct them.

Key Scriptures

Matthew 22:23-33, 41-46; Romans 12:2; 1 Timothy 4:6; 2 Timothy 3:16-17.

1. Everyone Reads Through Filters

- A mind filter is an assumption, framework, tradition, or worldview that shapes what we notice and how we interpret it.
- Filters are often inherited long before they are consciously examined.

Notes:

2. Filters Can Disable Learning

- A strong theological framework may answer questions before we allow the text itself to challenge us.
- When our system becomes untouchable, Scripture is forced to fit the conclusion rather than form it.

Notes:

THINK ABOUT IT

What theological or cultural filter most strongly shapes the way you approach disputed passages?

3. Jesus Exposes Faulty Filters

- In Matthew 22 Jesus engages groups whose assumptions distort their reading of Scripture.
- He brings them back to God's Word and exposes what their framework has prevented them from seeing.

Notes:

4. Renewing the Mind

- Biblical renewal requires more than collecting information; it requires allowing God's Word to correct our assumptions.
- A learning heart is willing to say, "I may have missed something."

Notes:

5. Filters and Fellowship

- Different filters help explain why sincere Christians can read the same passage differently.
- Recognizing this should increase humility without making truth relative.

Notes:

Study & Application

Use these after the lesson and related book reading. The complete chapter study-question set remains in the textbook.

1. Define a mind filter and give one example.

2. How can a theological system help us? How can it hinder us?

3. What does Jesus' method in Matthew 22 teach about correcting interpretive assumptions?

4. What practice can help you notice your own filters before judging another believer's conclusions?

KEY TAKEAWAY: We grow in truth when Scripture is allowed to examine our filters instead of our filters controlling Scripture.

Next: Complete the 7-question Lesson 7 online quiz.