

Letting

Go...

of WRONG THINKING

“We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.”

–2 Corinthians 10:5

What we think about has everything to do with what we end up doing... Have you ever seen that alluring commercial on TV— an advertisement boasting of a mouth-watering, irresistible hot pizza with all the delicious toppings you could want all for just \$10? Just thinking about the yumminess propels you into action. It won't be long before you're placing your order and sinking your teeth into all that cheesy goodness.

What about something more detrimental...? Have you ever thought that someone was upset with you, only to create a huge unnecessary problem that did not even exist in the first place? Have you ever convinced yourself you weren't good at something and as a result failed miserably? However, if you had walked confidently in an area of uncertainty you might have found great success in a most unexpected way?

Our mindset is SO important! Our thoughts lead to action.

Read Matthew 16:21-23 and contemplate Peter's thought process. What does Jesus say is wrong with Peter's thinking? _____

From Galatians 6:7-8 we learn the important lesson that we reap what we sow. Garbage in, garbage out... what seeds are you sowing in your mind? _____

Contrast the two different mindsets explained in Romans 8:5-9.

Mind set on the **Spirit**:

Mind set on the **flesh**:

1 John 2:16 tells us three basic things that shape the world's way of thinking. What are they?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

How can you implement the truth found in Psalm 101:2-3? _____

What instruction is found in Ephesians 4:22-23? _____

The world has a distorted view of thinking. What does Ephesians 4:17-19 say about their view?

According to 2 Corinthians 10:5 what do we need to do? _____

Romans 12:2 gives clear instruction about living in this world but not becoming part of it. What are the steps of action we need to take? _____

What does Philippians 4:8 tell us to think on? _____

Right thinking is based on Biblical TRUTH! How do following verses affect your mindset?

Philippians 4:11-12 _____

Philippians 4:13 _____

Ephesians 4:26 _____

James 1:14-15 _____

Matthew 6:25-34 _____

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 _____

What are some other truths from God’s Word that have impacted your way of thinking?

In 2 Peter 3:1, Peter talks about stimulating his friends to wholesome thinking. How are you stimulated to wholesome thinking and how can you stimulate others?

“Dear friends, this is now my second letter to you. I have written both of them as reminders to stimulate you to wholesome thinking.”
—2 Peter 3:1

Read Hebrews 4:12. What does this verse say that the Word of God does? _____

God's Word can change our thinking IF we take the time to be saturated with it. What encouragement do you find in Psalm 119:145-147? _____

According to Psalm 119:30 and Colossians 3:1-2 what should we be setting our hearts and minds on?

Wrap up:

I must let go of _____ and change my _____.

Passage Index (NIV 1984 unless otherwise stated)

Matthew 16:21-23 (ESV) "From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, 'Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you.' ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.'"

Galatians 6:7-8 "Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. ⁸Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life."

Romans 8:5-9 "Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. ⁶The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. ⁸Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God. ⁹You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ."

1 John 2:16 "For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world."

Psalms 101:2-3 "I will be careful to lead a blameless life—when will you come to me? I will conduct the affairs of my house with a blameless heart. ³I will not look with approval on anything that is vile. I hate what faithless people do; I will have no part in it."

Ephesians 4:22-24 "You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; ²³to be made new in the attitude of your minds; ²⁴and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness."

Ephesians 4:17-19 "So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. ¹⁸They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. ¹⁹Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, and they are full of greed."

2 Corinthians 10:5 "We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ."

Romans 12:2 "Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will."

Philippians 4:8 "Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things."

Philippians 4:11-12 "I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. ¹² I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want."

Philippians 4:13 "I can do all this through him who gives me strength."

Ephesians 4:26 "In your anger do not sin: Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry..."

James 1:14-15 "but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. ¹⁵ Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death."

Matthew 6:25-34 "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? ²⁷ Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life? ²⁸ "And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. ²⁹ Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. ³⁰ If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? ³¹ So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' ³² For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. ³³ But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. ³⁴ Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 "Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray continually, ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

Hebrews 4:12 "For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart."

Psalms 119:145-147 "I call with all my heart; answer me, Lord, and I will obey your decrees. ¹⁴⁶ I call out to you; save me and I will keep your statutes. ¹⁴⁷ I rise before dawn and cry for help; I have put my hope in your word."

Psalms 119:30 "I have chosen the way of faithfulness; I have set my heart on your laws."

Colossians 3:1-2 "Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things."