

Filter Your Thinking

Stand Firm part 7; Sermon 44. Philippians 4:8 Chris Mueller

Introduction

8 Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things.

THRPLGEP

1 - Thinking is the key to winning over _____

Luther = the birds will fly over, but you don't have to let them build a nest in your hair

2 - Thinking is _____ you actually are

Proverbs 23:7a *For as he thinks within himself, so he is.*

Matthew 15:18 *the things that proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and those defile the man. 19 For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, slanders. 20 These are the things which defile the man; but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile the man*

3 - Thinking is a silent _____ with God

Luke 6:8 [Jesus] *knew what they were thinking...*

Luke 11:17 [Jesus] *knew their thoughts*

Matthew 9:4 *Jesus knowing their thoughts said, "Why are you thinking evil in your hearts?"*

1 Chronicles 28:9b *... for the Lord searches all hearts, and understands every intent of the thoughts.*

4 - Thinking requires Christians to avoid _____

5 - Thinking requires the saturation of _____

Psalms 119:105 *Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path.*

Colossians 3:16 *Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you.*

Psalms 119:11 *Your word I have treasured in my heart, That I may not sin against You.*

6 - Thinking must be filtered in order to _____ *Finally, brethren,*

Verses 2-3=Addressing relational tension

Verse 4=Manifesting genuine joy

Verse 5=Embracing honest humility

Verse 6=Resting in dependent faith

Verse 7=Responding in personal prayer

Verse 8=Filtering their thinking

#1 FILTERED thinking involves _____ out the good

Genesis 50:20 *As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good in order to bring about this present result, to preserve many people alive.*

#2 FILTERED thinking involves continually _____ down categories of thought

8 Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things.

1st TRUE

2nd HONORABLE

3rd RIGHT Proverbs 12:5 *The thoughts of the righteous are just*

4th PURE 1 John 3:3 *And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.*

5th LOVELY

6th of GOOD REPUTE

7th If there is any EXCELLENCE

8th If there is anything WORTHY OF PRAISE

#3 FILTERED thinking involves choosing to _____

A. God commands us to THINK in order to be _____

Isaiah 1:18 *"Come now, and let us reason together," says the LORD, "Though your sins are as scarlet, They will be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They will be like wool."*

Matthew 13:19 *"When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is the one on whom seed was sown beside the road."*

Romans 10:17 *So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.*

Psalms 139:23 *Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me and know my anxious thoughts.*

B. God commands us to THINK in order to be _____

John 17:17 *Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.*

Hebrews 4:12 *For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.*

C. God commands us to THINK in order to be _____

Psalms 139:17 *How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! How vast is the sum of them! 18 If I should count them, they would outnumber the sand. When I awake, I am still with You.*

Isaiah 55:8 *"For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," declares the Lord. 9 "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways And My thoughts than your thoughts."*

QUESTIONS FOR STANDING FIRM

1. Why is THINKING for the Christian such a big deal in the Scripture?
2. What aspect of the IMPORTANCE of thinking for the Christian convicted you the most and why?
3. Where are you battling with your THOUGHTS?
4. What truth from verse 8 was NEW to you as a believer?
5. Think through a current difficult trial or difficult relationship—what truth should you draw from that situation to THINK about?
6. What quality of THROUGHT is the most important for you personally to focus on?
7. What steps can you take in order to CONCENTRATE your thinking?
8. What steps will you take this week in order to FILTER your thinking?

Get the free audio or manuscript from today at media.faith-bible.net and the FBC Church APP or pick up today's message on CD at the book table for free: Married couples check out marriagebythebook.online couples check out marriagebythebook.online