**Having a Transformed Mind**

Colossians 3:2

*“Set your mind on things above, not earthly things”*

**Week I**

We live during a time when the only thing that matters is your socio-economic status. Our material possessions or educational achievements hold more value than how, who, or what we believe. This directs our attention on the things of this world and not the things above. Jesus said in Matthew 6:19, “lay up not for yourselves treasures here on earth” in other words keep your eye on the prize of your heavenly calling.

Sinful thoughts are often something we believers struggle with every day. Sometimes we have no control as to what thoughts enter our minds; however, we are able to take control of these thoughts. God's Word's help us to recognize our thoughts for what they really are, and how to act (or not act) upon them.

For the next three weeks, we will give attention to how we think and how we should remind ourselves to be aware of how our mind works. The conscious **mind** communicates to the outside world and the inner self through speech, pictures, writing, physical movement, and thought. The subconscious **mind**, on the other hand, is in charge of our recent memories, and is in continuous contact with the resources of the unconscious **mind**.

**Scripture Reference**

*Romans 12:2 (NIV)*

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.

**Topic (Consequences of Conformity)**

***Romans 1:28***

Just as they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, so God gave them over to a depraved mind, so that they do what ought not to be done.

***Romans 8:5***

For those who are according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who are according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.

***Romans 8:6***

The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace.

***Proverbs 15:26***

The thoughts of the wicked are an abomination to the Lord, but gracious words are pure.

***Mark 7:21***

For it is from within, out of a person’s heart, that evil thoughts come…

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Philippians 2:5

*“Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ…”*

**Week II**

The power of transformed thinking is not a very easy thing to ascend. We’re bombarded with the influences of the world, selfish desire, and a need to be on the offense. We dare not let anyone take advantage of any situation in our lives because we have the need to be in control. This hinders us from following Christ because God wants total control of our lives. Therefore, the question becomes how we adjust the way we think about life and what the steps to transforming the way we think.

There is transformation once we change the way we engage with the world through scripture. Philippians 2:5 gives us a map into how we can began to experience the power of transformed thinking as it states, *“Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ…”* Let us review what it means when the scripture says “…*this mind*…”

**Scripture Reference**

*Philippians 2:5-8*

**5**Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: **6**Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: **7**But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: **8**And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

**Topic (The Proper Mindset)**

***Maintain Humility***

**James 4:10**

Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you.

**Matthew 18:4**

"Whoever then humbles himself as this child, he is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

***Become a Servant***

**I Corinthians 10:24**

Let no one seek his own good, but that of his neighbor.

**Proverbs 3:5-6**

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding.

***Obedience is the Key***

**John 14:23**

Jesus replied, “Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching.”

**James 1:22**

Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

**I Corinthians 15:58**

Therefore, dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

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Isaiah 26:3 KJV

“Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.”

**Week III**

Is your mind stayed on God or is it starved? Starvation of the mind, caused by neglect, is one of the chief sources of exhaustion and weakness in a servant’s life. If you have never used your mind to place yourself before God, begin to do it now. There is no reason to wait for God to come to you. You must turn your thoughts and your eyes away from the face of idols and look to Him and be saved.

Your mind is the greatest gift God has given you and it ought to be devoted entirely to Him. You should seek to be “bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ…” You will begin to see that your thoughts are from God as well, and your mind will no longer be at the mercy of your impulsive thinking, but will always be used in service to God.

**Scripture Reference**

*Isaiah 26:3*Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee*.*

Peace is one of the most valuable gifts God can bestow upon a person. The reason why it is valuable because there is no price you can place on it. If peace is priceless then perfect peace is from God and cannot be attained without trusting Him.

**Topic (The Ability to Past the Test)**

***Psalm 46:10***

“Be still, and know that I am God!

***Psalm 91:14-15***

Because he has focused his love on me, I will deliver him. I will protect him because he knows my name. When he calls out to me, I will answer him. I will be with him in his distress. I will deliver him, and I will honor him.

***Philippians 3:13-14***

No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead.

***Hebrews 3:1***

Therefore, holy brothers, partners in a heavenly calling, keep your focus on Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession.

***Hebrews 12:1-2***

Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

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