

# Sunday June 07, 2015 Every Thought Captive Ps Ashish Raichur

This morning we will revisit a familiar subject - about learning how to control our mind.

our mind plays an important role in our daily lives.

The thoughts we think affect our mood, our actions and our behavior.

The Bible teaches us to think on the right kind of things:

Philippians 4:8

Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.

However, we all know that not all the thoughts we have fit into the Philippians 4:8 category.

We have all kinds of wrong thoughts: lustful thoughts, evil thoughts, negative thoughts, fearful thoughts, depressing thoughts, some may even have suicidal thoughts, etc.

So how do we control our thoughts? What do we do with these wrong thoughts?

First of all we need to understand the 4 source of thoughts:

- 1, Our own thoughts
- 2, Other people's thoughts that are shared with us when they communicate to us
- 3, God's thoughts being imparted to us through His Word and by His Spirit
- 4, Demonic thoughts that interject our normal thought process

Let's elaborate a little on these:

## 1, Our own thoughts

Your mind is yours. You have the right to determine what kind of thoughts go on in your mind. You decide what you are going to feed your mind with. You decide what you want your mind to meditate (ponder, think deeply) upon.

Philippians 4:8 is a command that all of us can obey and walk in.

As a believer in Christ you have a sound mind (2 Timothy 1:7)

As a child of God, He is your Shepherd and He restores your soul, which is your mind, will and emotions (Psalm 23:3)

You have a right to mental and emotional wholeness and soundness through the Cross of Jesus Christ (Isaiah 53:5)



You can have perfect peace of mind, as you keep your mind stayed on the Lord (Isaiah 26:3)

### 2, Other people's thoughts that are shared with us when they communicate to us

When we communicate, interact, read, we get to hear, know and learn other peoples thoughts. This is one way for us to learn and expand our knowledge. We can choose to accept or reject what people say. We can filter out wrong thoughts.

Other people's thoughts - what they say - can affect us if we accept those thoughts.

### 3, God's thoughts being imparted to us through His Word and by His Spirit

God's Word reveals God's thoughts and God's ways.

His thoughts and His ways are very different - much higher, greater, superior - than our thoughts and ways.

#### Isaiah 55:7-9

- 7 Let the wicked forsake his way, And the unrighteous man his thoughts; Let him return to the LORD, And He will have mercy on him; And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon.
- 8 "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," says 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.

The Holy Spirit reveals and imparts God's thoughts to us.

IF we are truly in tune with the Holy Spirit and are listening to Him, we can walk in the mind of Christ - the very thoughts that He thinks.

- 1 Corinthians 2:10 But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.
- 1 Corinthians 2:16 For "WHO HAS KNOWN THE MIND OF THE LORD THAT HE MAY INSTRUCT HIM?" But we have the mind of Christ.

Choosing to walk in the thoughts of God is called renewing our mind (Romans 12:2).

### 4, Demonic thoughts that interject our normal thought process

The enemy, satan and his evil spirits can throw their evil thoughts and interject our thought process.

We see this in the temptation of Jesus in (Matthew 4:1-11).

We also learn how to counter evil suggestions that come to our mind from the enemy. We must resist, rebuke and counter those evil thoughts with the Word of God.



The enemy can use other people to speak his evil thoughts to us. We see an example of this when Peter attempted to dissuade Jesus from going to the Cross. Jesus recognized the source of that thought as being satan and rebuked the source. Matthew 16:21-23

We cannot prevent wrong thoughts from coming, but we can refuse them room in our minds. We can reject those wrong thoughts.

Having a wrong thought come to your mind in itself is not a sin. Thinking evil is sin.

## What are we to do with wrong thoughts that come to us?

2 Corinthians 10:3-5

3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh.

4 For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, 5 casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,

God wants us to use our spiritual weapons of the Word of God, the name of Jesus, the empowering of the Spirit to bring every thought in submission to Christ.

When a wrong thought comes, rebuke it in Jesus name and speak God's Word that counters that thought. (Pastors, you can provide some practical examples here on how to do this.)

So we wish to encourage all of us to watch over our minds. Let's keep our minds holy unto God. Take every thought captive to God's Word.

### Salvation call





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