

How is your thought-life? Philippians 4:8-9

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. 9 The things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

When we talked about Philippians verses 6-7, we talked about Paul's instructions to the Philippians on how not to worry, and how to get _____ of worry and experiencing the JOY and Peace of God. Philippians 4:6-8 is one of the best places in the Bible to turn to when you find yourself _____.

Paul has told us what NOT to think about—anxieties and worries—but what are we _____ to think about?

whatever is true,

true,

Paul is calling us to dwell on the _____ of God as He has _____ Himself in His _____.

whatever is honorable,

When we think about the _____ of God, the weighty _____ of the Word of God and everything that God associates Himself with, we feel a sense of _____ which _____ our thinking.

whatever is right (in the sense of Just),

We are to dwell on God's _____; how everything He does is right and _____. He wants us to _____ Him and love righteousness and justice. In thinking about _____ ways, He wants us to consider _____ ways.

whatever is pure,

We should strive for _____, _____ and _____; the kind of moral _____ that God expects of His people. When we think about _____ and specifically that we are going to meet Him face-to-face someday, we should want to purify ourselves and live in _____.

whatever is lovely,

Lovely here means " _____ " or love-inspiring, or eliciting affection. Thinking on the loveliness of Jesus, the loveliness of God extends our hearts out to Him.

And _____ can be lovely. Take a minute, and just think of something one of your brothers or sisters in Christ has done for that was _____.

whatever is of good repute,

We are to think and speak _____ words to one another, think about kind actions toward each other.

if there is any excellence

Areté means moral excellence—goodness, uprightness, _____ in the general sense. Find the _____ in the situation to think about.

and if anything worthy of praise,

This word *épainos* means appropriately judged as deserving _____.

Of course, most often when the word praise is used in the New Testament, it's most often referring to praising _____. (Phil 1:11, Eph 1:6, 12)

But it is also of the praise that _____ will give in the Bema seat judgement of those things done for Him with the _____ motive. It's far _____ to receive praise from _____ than man.

dwell on these things.

Let your mind _____ be taking these things into _____. Continually _____ on these things. Changing the focus of our thoughts toward _____ things will begin to change our _____ to be more in line with the way Jesus wants us to live. Our inner thought life is _____

[A benchmark for thoughts that come to your minds](#)

But in order to accomplish this transformation of our thought life that the Holy Spirit wants to bring about, it takes some _____ and some _____

Think of Philippians 4:8 as a kind of _____ checking the _____ of thoughts that come into our head.

Present your _____ - _____ to God and say, I want to think about the things that YOU want me to think about. 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.**

Paul says in 2 Corinthians 10:5 **5 We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ,**

9 The things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

learned

Paul is calling on them to come to _____ that this is the way to experience the true peace of God.

Received

Paul is calling us to _____ what he has said: _____ it to our lives.

and heard

Paul is calling us not just to hear, as in in one ear and out the other, but to _____ to what he's saying.

or seen in me.

Paul is once again calling for them to follow the _____ that they have seen in him.

practice these things

The commitment of our thought-life to God is not something that can be accomplished overnight, but if we have the _____ to sanctify our thought-life to God, the Holy Spirit will help us.

God of peace will be with you

If we will give over our thought-life to God, not only will we receive the peace of God, as it promises in Philippians 4:7, but more than that we will walk closer with the God of _____, Jehovah _____, the Lord our Peace (Judges 6:24).