

Thought of Week – What Are You Thinking?

(Week: 20180326) – By Jim Fannin

Psalm 139:23

Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me and know my anxious thoughts;

The Psalmist asks God to search his thoughts. It's scary when you think about what God might find. It's even scarier when we realize God already knows what we are thinking!

So, we know we don't think like God. After all **Isaiah 55:8** reminds us;

"For My **thoughts** are not your **thoughts**, Nor are your ways My ways," declares the Lord."

Yet God wants us to focus our thoughts much like that person you know, who single mindedly, always starts and ends every conversation about their same pet hobby, topic, or idea.

So how do we get in tune and focus our thoughts so that they will be pleasing to God?

1. **Sing hymns and spiritual songs.** In **Ephesians 5:19** Paul says,

"...speaking to one another **in** psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your **heart** to **the** Lord;".

Not coincidentally, we are admonished to encourage other by, "singing!" Singing spiritual songs creates spiritual thoughts.

2. **Be positive and confident.** Despite whatever troubling event may happen, we should be confident. **In Luke 24:38**, the disciples could hardly believe it when Jesus appears in their midst.

Jesus asks, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts?"

Jesus is thinking, based on what the disciples have seen, and heard, and thus what they "know," why would they have doubts? They should be positive, enthusiastic, and confidently celebrating our lives in Jesus! Proper knowledge of Christ and God should bring confidence, not doubt!

3. **Seek the Lord daily.** In **1 Chronicles 28:9**, the author says,

*"... for the Lord searches all hearts and understands every intent of the **thoughts**. **If you seek Him**, He will let you find Him; but if you forsake Him, He will reject you forever.*

The key to finding and knowing the Lord is "**seeking Him**." If you fail to seek Him daily, you cannot expect Him in your daily thoughts.

4. **Think on the right things.** In **Philippians 4:8**, Paul directs us,

*"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**."*

Obviously, as Christians this something we should already know. We **should be** thinking on these things. **The question is, how do we do this?**

5. **Be transformed!** **2 Corinthians 3:18** is the key to transforming our thinking. (NOTE: Citing the AMPLIFIED BIBLE as it communicates the meaning more clearly.) The verse says ...

*"And we all, with unveiled face, **continually seeing** as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, **are progressively being transformed into His image** from [one degree of] glory to [even more] glory, which comes from the Lord, ..."*

As we behold Christ, that is, study Him in the scripture, get more knowledge and understanding of Him, we ***are progressively being transformed into His image ...***, that is, we become more like Him in every respect. This is what Paul means in **Romans 12:2**, "*... be transformed by the renewing of your mind. ...*"

Bible study, seeing Christ in scripture is how we transform our thoughts to become single minded. As we see Him in scripture, the more our minds and thoughts are transformed!

Let's be more conscious of our thoughts this week, so we can make sure we are thinking as we should. **Rededicate yourself to consistent and deep daily bible study. Be transformed more and more into His likeness.**