

Righteous Thinking

What is on your mind? There are probably many people here who have all kinds of things racing through their minds (maybe even some things that have very little to do with what we are supposed to be here doing). God has blessed us with a remarkable ability to process all kinds of things in our minds all the time! Since our minds are so powerful and play such a critical part in our lives, surely you would think that the Bible would have something to say about them?

Indeed, that is the case! God certainly has much to say about our minds and the expectations He has for us regarding how we use them.

How do we protect our minds?

- We need to remember that God can see our thoughts. He knows exactly what we are pondering throughout each day (Proverbs 15:3; Hebrews 4:23; John 2:25).
- We need to remember that God has expectations for our thoughts (1 Peter 1:3; 2 Corinthians 10:5; Proverbs 4:23; Philippians 4:8). Godly thoughts help develop virtuous characters. They help keep our minds on the right kinds of things.
- We need to remember that God expects us to control our thoughts. Our thoughts directly impact the kind of decisions we make (Matthew 15:18-20). Sin starts in the heart!

What are some righteous thoughts?

- Satan. We need to be constantly thinking about Satan because he is constantly thinking about us. The devil is stalking and watching us. He is a fierce adversary whose desire is to sever our relationship with God (2 Corinthians 2:11; 1 Peter 5:8). Thinking constantly about the evil one will dramatically impact our walk as disciples. It will help us see the constant battles taking place between us and Satan (Ephesians 4:26-27).
- Serving. Jesus possessed the mind of a servant (Philippians 2:3-5). Those who follow Him must rid themselves of selfish and arrogant thinking. They must constantly be mindful of their brethren's needs and the lost around them (Colossians 4:2-5). Write down the name of the lost people you know on a sticky note. Put them in a place where you will always see them. This will help remind you of their current spiritual status and the need to serve them by sharing the gospel.
- Scripture. The word of God must be in our hearts (Psalm 119:9-11). This is why daily Bible reading is so critical. Beyond daily Bible reading, writing down the Scriptures will help keep it in the forefront of our minds (Deuteronomy 6:7-9). Placing written verses in various places will help us memorize them, be aware of them, and equip us whenever Satan seeks to trip us up in our faith.

Conclusion:

Always seek to use your mind to the glory of God!

Shawn Jeffries