

Changing how we think

April 3, 2022

COLOSSIANS 3:1-2 NKJV – (1) If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. (2) Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.

We saw that **Romans 12** urges us not to think like the world but to be transformed by renewing our minds. That may sound like a discouraging task, but it is possible through Christ (**Philippians 4:13**). Here are some pointers for transforming the way you think:

- Acknowledge you have the capacity to think correctly (**1 Corinthians 2:16**). If you've trusted Christ as your Savior, God's Spirit lives inside you. Because He is holy and pure. His presence enables you to think holy, pure thoughts. And within you is the very same power that raised Christ from the dead (**Ephesians 1:19-20**).
- Seek spiritual things (**Colossians 3:1-2**). When a muscle is worked, it grows stronger. Similarly, reading the Scriptures provides sustenance to your mind, but if you then exercise it through study and meditation, your thinking will become more Christ like.
- Sift thoughts through the Word and will of God (**2 Corinthians 10:5**). Too often, even Christians act impetuously without regard for God's instruction or purposes. Avidly reading and obeying his Word and trusting the Holy Spirit's guidance will help you avoid much heartache.
- Choose to refuse certain thoughts (**Psalms 101:2-3**). Harmful thoughts are among those things referred to as Satan's "flaming arrow" (**Ephesians 6:16**). We may not be responsible for such thoughts popping into our heads, but we are accountable for our response to them. If you find yourself pausing on or entertaining unhealthy ideas, ask God to redirect your thinking. Then thank Him because Jesus Christ purchased your forgiveness at Calvary. And that, ultimately, is what all sin is: a willful choice to do something other than what God wills (**Romans 3:10**).

SCRIPTURE READING

1 TIMOTHY 3:13

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

You have to believe that God knows what He is doing when He is not doing what you want.

"A JOURNEY OF THE HEART"