

***Staying Positive***

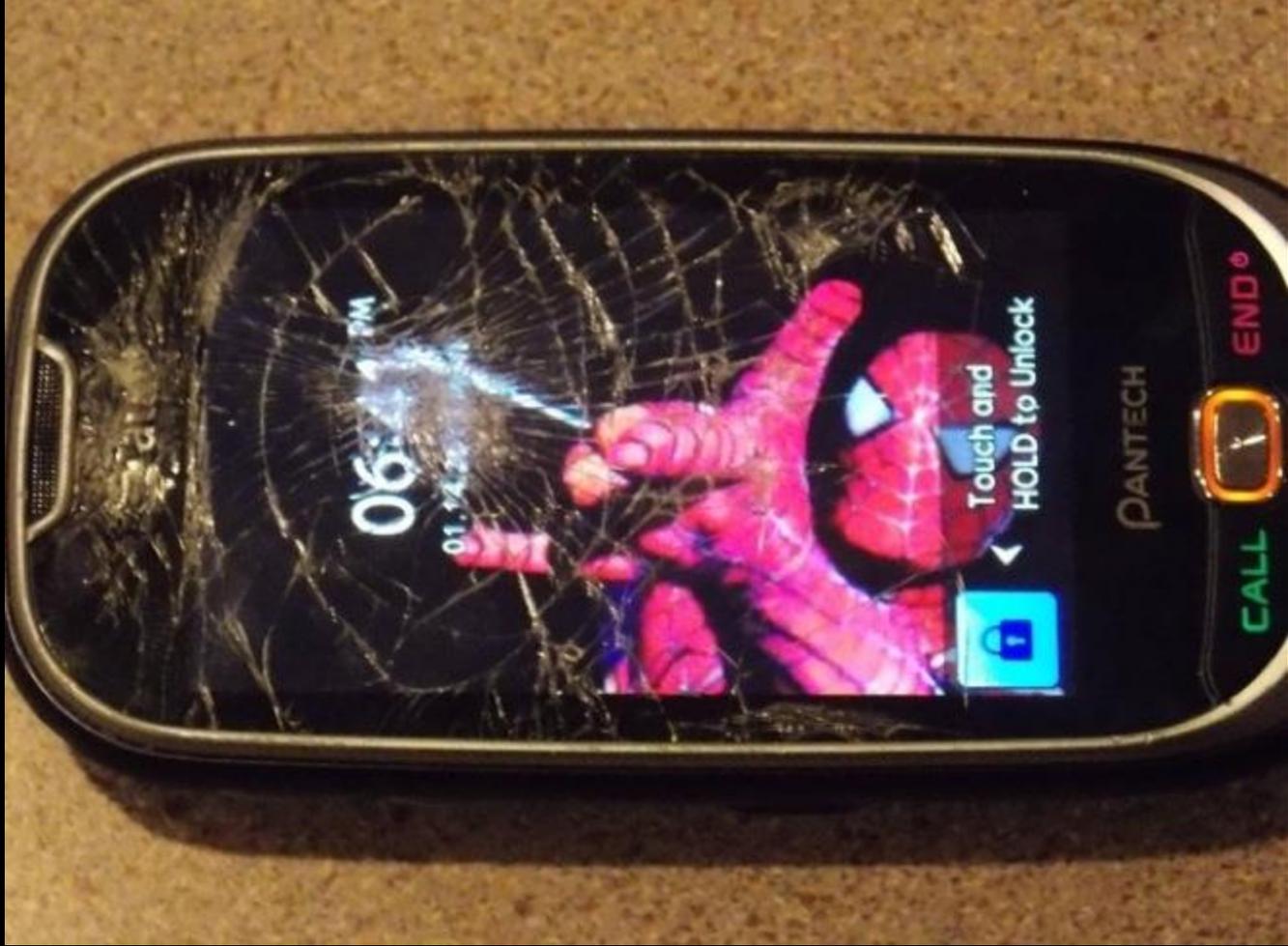
***In A***

***Negative World***

***Philippians 4:6-9***

**Do you live above or under  
your circumstances?**









## **John 16:33**

**These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.**

# We Live In A Negative World



# Worry Statistics

- **40% never happen,**
- **30% concern things in the past**
- **12% are needless worries about health**
- **10% are about petty issues**
- **Only 8% are legitimate concerns**

**92% of your “worry time” is wasted energy**

## **Philippians 3:1**

**Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you, to me indeed is not grievous, but for you it is safe.**

# Not All Christians Are Positive People





# **I. You Must Respond To God's Love**

## **Philippians 4:6-7**

**6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.**

**7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.**

# **I. You Must Respond To God's Love**

## **A. God wants to help**

**1 Peter 5:7**

**Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.**

**Psalms 115:12**

**The LORD hath been mindful of us: he will bless us; he will bless the house of Israel; he will bless the house of Aaron.**

# **I. You Must Respond To God's Love**

## **B. God wants you remember His past blessings**

**Psalm 68:19**

**Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation. Selah.**

**Psalm 103:2**

**Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:**

**Psalm 116:12-13**

**12 What shall I render unto the LORD for all his benefits toward me?**

**13 I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the LORD.**

# **I. You Must Respond To God's Love**

## **C. God's peace will keep you**

**John 14:27**

**Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.**

**Colossians 3:15**

**And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.**

# **I. You Must Respond To God's Love**

**The Love Of God As It Is Revealed To Us On A  
Daily Basis Should Cause Us To Cease To Be  
Negative**

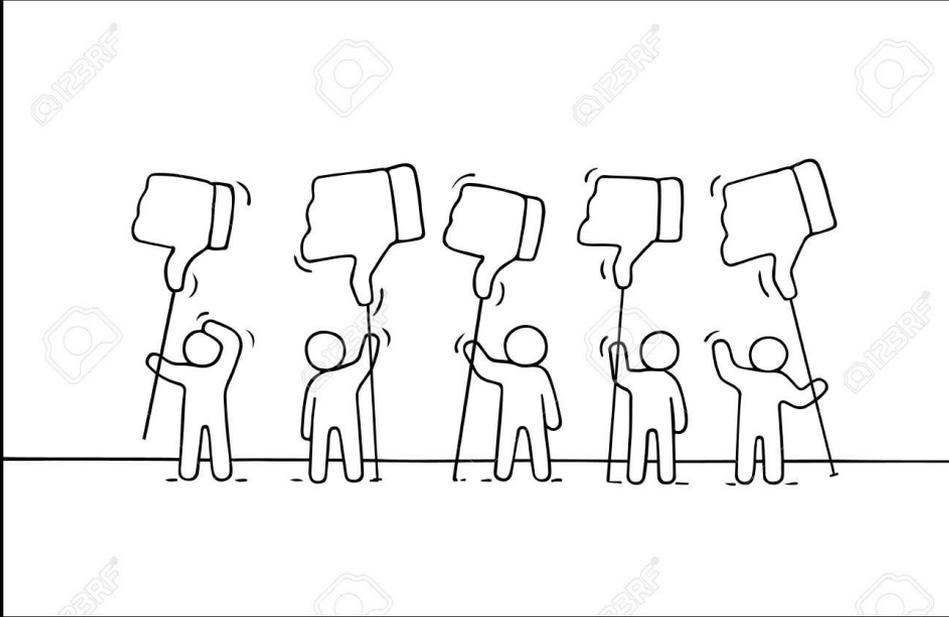
## **II. You Must Reprogram Your Way Of Thinking**

### **Philippians 4:8**

**Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.**

## II. You Must Reprogram Your Way Of Thinking

### A. We are constantly bombarded with negative messages



## **II. You Must Reprogram Your Way Of Thinking**

### **B. We are probably all around negative people**



## **II. You Must Reprogram Your Way Of Thinking**

**C. There are positive benefits to being around positive people**

**1 Thessalonians 5:11**

**Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.**

## **II. You Must Reprogram Your Way Of Thinking**

### **D. Building blocks to spiritual thinking**

- 1. Developing a devotional life**
- 2. Daily Bible reading and prayer**
- 3. Starting every day thankful**
- 4. Expecting God to come through**
- 5. Clean up your thought life**



# **II. You Must Reprogram Your Way Of Thinking**

## **You Are What You Think**

### **Romans 12:2**

**And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.**

# **III. You Must Reach Out To Lost And Hurting People**

**Philippians 4:9**

**Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.**

# **III. You Must Reach Out To Lost And Hurting People**

**A. Paul was asking the believers at Philippi to do what he was doing**

**1 Corinthians 11:1**

**Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.**

**John 13:15**

**For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you.**

# **III. You Must Reach Out To Lost And Hurting People**

**B. The “negatives” in others did not stop Paul from ministry**

**1. Forgetting past events**

**Ephesians 1:16**

**Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers;**

**Philippians 1:3**

**I thank my God upon every remembrance of you,**

**1 Thessalonians 1:2**

**We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers;**

# **III. You Must Reach Out To Lost And Hurting People**

**B. The “negatives” in others did not stop Paul from ministry**

**2. He represented Christ**

**2 Corinthians 5:18-20**

**18 And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;**

**19 To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.**

**20 Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.**

# **III. You Must Reach Out To Lost And Hurting People**

**C. Winning the lost and reconciling those to faith will bring positive joy in our lives**

**Psalm 126:6**

**He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.**

**Galatians 6:1**

**Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.**

# **III. You Must Reach Out To Lost And Hurting People**

**Doing What We Were Created to Do In Christ  
Will Keep A Correct Focus**

# Which Way Will You Choose?

