

THE POWER OF POSITIVE THINKING

PHILIPPIANS 4:1-8

Philippians 4:1-8

1 Therefore, my brethren dearly beloved and longed for, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, my dearly beloved.

2 I beseech Euodias, and beseech Syntyche, that they be of the same mind in the Lord.

3 And I intreat thee also, true yokefellow, help those women which laboured with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and with other my fellowlabourers, whose names are in the book of life.

Philippians 4:1-8 - continued

- 4 Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice.**
- 5 Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand.**
- 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.**
- 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.**

Introduction

A. Most of us can only think of one thing at a time

B. What type of things do you think about?

Romans 8:5-6

**5 For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of
the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of
the Spirit.**

**6 For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually
minded is life and peace.**

Introduction

C. The Bible teaches that we need to renew our minds

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.

Ephesians 4:23

And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;

D. Our passage tells us what we should concentrate on

I. The Believer's Social Life (4:1-2)

A. Act like family (v 1)

B. Make others want to be around you (v 1)

C. Should stand fast in the Lord (v 1)

Philippians 1:27

Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;

D. Not everyone wants to (v 2)

III. The Believer's Spiritual Life (4:3-5)

A. It makes him helpful (v 3)

- 1. With the right type of help**
- 2. With the right type of goal**

Galatians 6:2

Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.

- 3. With the right type of people**

2 Corinthians 6:14

Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?

III. The Believer's Spiritual Life (4:3-5)

B. It makes him happy (v 4)

1. A result of a relationship with Christ

Psalm 146:5

**Happy is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help,
whose hope is in the Lord his God:**

2. A reason to stay happy

Romans 4:7

**Saying, Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven,
and whose sins are covered.**

III. The Believer's Spiritual Life (4:3-5)

C. It makes him holy (v 5)

1. To be like Christ

James 3:17

But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, *and* easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.

Titus 3:2

To speak evil of no man, to be no brawlers, *but* gentle, shewing all meekness unto all men.

III. The Believer's Spiritual Life (4:3-5)

C. It makes him holy (v 5) - continued

2. To be near Christ

Psalm 145:18

The LORD *is* nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth.

III. The Believer's Secular Life (4:6)

A. Looking for God

Psalm 127:2

It is vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows: for so he giveth his beloved sleep.

Psalm 1:2

But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

B. Living for God

1 Corinthians 10:31

Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.

IV. The Believer's Secret Life (4:7-8)

A. One of peace

1. A gift from God

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.

Galatians 5:22

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

2. A gift to be used

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.

IV. The Believer's Secret Life (4:7-8)

B. One of purity

1 Timothy 3:7

Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

C. One of praise

Psalm 57:7

My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed: I will sing and give praise.

HOW ARE YOUR THOUGHTS?

Proverbs 23:7a
For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he: