

P250

Grace Notes Radio Program

SERIES: Think Right Thoughts – Conclusion

SONGS: THY WORD 2:32 1300 @.37

MY LIPS WILL PRAISE YOU 4:00

INTRO: Welcome to Grace Notes. Today Barbara Sandbek will complete our study on 'Thinking Right Thoughts'. Philippians 4 verse 8 has been our text for this series. Through studying each phrase we've discovered that we need to focus on things of the Lord - things that are true, noble, right, pure, lovely and admirable.

TRUE things are God's WORD.

NOBLE things are God's WAYS.

RIGHT things are God's WILL.

PURE things are God's WISDOM.

LOVELY things are God's WORKS.

and ADMIRABLE things are God's WONDERS.

These and only these are excellent and praise-worthy things on which to think. Paul's exhortation to "think about such things" is followed by a second exhortation in his next verse, "put it into practice". So, as we conclude, let see how right thinking produces right actions.

If we were to combine all these characteristics of God into one, we would see Jesus Christ. He is God's WORD in the flesh. He's the only WAY to fellowship with the Father. By following Him we live out God's WILL. He is the WISDOM of God. The greatest WORK God ever did was to bring many sons to glory through Christ's death and resurrection, and God's greatest WONDER is His love for us displayed through Jesus.

Jesus SERVED the Father and ultimately us by finishing God's Salvation plan at Calvary and demonstrating for us how to live a life that pleases God.

Perhaps that's what the Apostle Paul concluded when he wrote in Philippians 2:5-7...

Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a SERVANT, and was made in the likeness of man.

Jesus humbled Himself by becoming a man and he humbled Himself in His thinking as well. He was obedient, even to the death of the cruel cross. This was God's will for Him and it resulted in an eternal gift for us.

We need to become more like Christ in our thinking, and be willing to be a servant for the Lord. A servant attitude begins in the mind. In verse 3 of Philippians 2, Paul wrote...

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider (here's the thinking) others better than yourselves.

There's much talk today about hearing God's voice. I want to say that if our attitude is not one of humility, we'll not hear it. I recently studied about how the prophet Samuel learned how to commune with God. As a boy, he was taken by his mother, Hannah, to the temple to serve the Lord with Eli the priest. No doubt, he was greatly influenced by their Godly lives, but when the Lord called Samuel in the night he thought it was Eli because 1 Samuel 3:7 records...

Samuel did not yet know the Lord. The word of the Lord had not yet be revealed to him.

Eli realized that the Lord was calling Samuel and instructed him that when the Lord called again to say...

Speak, for your SERVANT is LISTENING.

God revealed a future event to Samuel and continued to do so throughout his lifetime, because Samuel had a servant's heart and listening ears. 1 Samuel 3:19 really struck me. It said...

The Lord was with Samuel as he grew up and He let NONE OF HIS WORDS FALL TO THE GROUND.

Wouldn't it be awesome to have every single thing you said be worthy of being listened to? Oh, that we should aspire for this to be so. We wouldn't even have to pray the prayer of Jabez for our boundaries to expand – they'd do so naturally as a result of our wise words.

God's word needs to become a part of us for this to occur. The prophet Jeremiah was given the difficult and unrewarding task of pronouncing judgment without mercy on Israel, the people he loved. He needed something to keep him going. In Jeremiah 15:16 he wrote to the Lord..

When Your words came to me, I ate them. They were my joy and my heart's delight, for I bear Your Name, O Lord God Almighty.

I see it like a phone call from a loved one. We cherish and relish every word. Jeremiah ingested God's words, like we would food – they became a part of him, providing comfort and joy as a delectable meal would.

Are God's words food for you? They should be.

Colossian 3:16a says...Let the words of Christ dwell in you richly.

David wrote in Psalm 119:11...I have hidden Your word in my heart that I might not sin against You.

As we think on God's words with a humble heart, his message to us will be revealed. Psalm 119:130a says...

The unfolding of Your words gives LIGHT...

We need think thoughts of Jesus and LISTEN PATIENTLY for his word. Then we'll become wise in our thinking and speech and see results. King David wrote in Psalm 40:1 and 3...

I waited PATIENTLY for the Lord and He turned to me and heard my cry.

He put a NEW SONG in my MOUTH, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear and put their trust in the Lord.

David received this NEW SONG that impacted many because he said to the Lord, in verse 7...

Here I am...I DESIRE to do your will, O my God, your law is within my heart.

The Psalmist wrote in Psalm 119:105...

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

******* WRITER: Amy Grant**

***** THY WORD *****

*Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.
When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way,
Still you're there right beside me.
And nothing will I fear
As long as you are near.
Please be near me to the end.
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.
I will not forget - Your love for me and yet
My heart forever is wandering.
Jesus be my guide,
And hold me to your side,
I will love you to the end.
Nothing will I fear as long as you are near.
Please be near me to the end.
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path,
And a light unto my path.
You're the light unto my path.*

Matthew 12:34 says that out of the overflow of the heart, the mouth speaks. It's so easy to fall prey to gossip. Proverbs 10:19 says...

When words are many, sin is not absent, but he who holds his tongue is wise.

Our words are our thoughts in action.

Proverbs 16:23...

A wise man's heart guides his MOUTH, and his lips PROMOTE INSTRUCTION. (or are persuasive)

Proverbs 12:18...

Reckless words pierce like sword, but the tongue of the wise brings HEALING.

Proverbs 18:21...

The tongue has the power of life and death.

Matthew 12:36 says that men will have to give an account on the day of judgment for every careless word spoken. Wew...that's convicting.

Want to make an impact with your words. Think on things of Christ. May His praise ever be on your lips.

***** MY LIPS WILL PRAISE YOU *****

*My lips will praise You
For You are holy
My voice will ever
Rise before Your throne
My heart will love You
For You are lovely
And You have called me
To become Your own*

*I am Your own
And I will worship You alone
I am Your own
I am Your child
I am Your own
And I will worship at Your throne
I am Your own
And I will love You*

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