

Mind Games Control Your Thoughts, Control Your Life

11-1-15

“Strongholds” means: To fortify, through the idea of holding safely, a castle.

The enemy uses this system of thought to establish claims against Godly truths that are only in your mind.

You must take captive any thought that is inconsistent with God’s word; you cannot continue to allow the thought in your mind.

Why.

- **God changes you through your_____.**

Romans 12:2 - Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

- **Then our spiritual enemy will try to change you by corrupting your mind.**

2 Corinthians 11:1-4 - I hope you will put up with a little of my foolishness; but you are already doing that. ² I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy. I promised you to one husband, to Christ, so that I might present you as a pure virgin to him. ³ But I am afraid that just as Eve was deceived by the serpent's cunning, your minds may somehow be led astray from your sincere and pure devotion to Christ. ⁴ For if someone comes to you and preaches a Jesus other than the Jesus we preached, or if you receive a different spirit from the one you received, or a different gospel from the one you accepted, you put up with it easily enough.

2 Corinthians 11:2 - I am jealous for you with a **godly jealousy**.

1. Jealousy means: A God given responsibility to keep them, to guard them, to protect them, and to preserve them.

2 Corinthians 11:3 But I am afraid that just as Eve was deceived by the serpent's cunning, **your minds** may somehow be led astray from your **sincere** and pure devotion to Christ.

2. Sincere means: More than single-mindedness. It is full-hearted devotion.

I. Principle One: You must understand your thinking _____ your feelings and actions, and therefore your life.

Proverbs 23:7 - For as he thinks within himself, so he is. NASU

What the mind attends to, it considers; what it does not attend to, it dismisses; what it attends to continually, it believes; and what it believes, it eventually does.

Ephesians 4:17 - So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the **futility** of their thinking.

A. Futility means: “emptiness”; “without having the right values.”

Now, what's the answer to this?

Ephesians 4:20-23 - You, however, did not come to **know** Christ that way.

²¹ Surely you **heard** of him and were **taught** in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. ²² You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; ²³ to be **made new in the attitude of your minds**;

B. When God wants to change you, how does He change you? When God wants to calm you, how does God calm you? God changes and calms you through your _____.

Isaiah 26:3 - “You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in you.”

- **If your spiritual enemy wants to corrupt you or get you worked up, how will he do it? _____.**

II. Principle Two. You must _____ if you are thinking about anything that is inconsistent with God's word.

2 Corinthians 11:4 - For if someone comes to you and preaches **a Jesus other than the Jesus we preached**, or if you receive a **different spirit** from the one you received, or a **different gospel** from the one you accepted,...

2 Corinthians 11:3 - But I am afraid that just as Eve was deceived by the serpent's cunning,...

A. He is going to deceive you the same way that he deceived Eve.

Genesis 3:1 "... "Did God really say,..."

Genesis 3:4 "You will not surely die,"

Genesis 3:5 "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

III. Principle Three. You must _____ the unhealthy thinking pattern.

How to break unhealthy thinking patterns:

A. Study the Word of God.

B. Memorize the Word of God.

C. Meditate upon the Word of God.

Psalms 143:3-5 - The enemy pursues me, he crushes me to the ground; he makes me dwell in darkness like those long dead. ⁴ So my **spirit grows faint** within me; my heart within me is **dismayed**. ⁵ I **remember** the days of long ago; I **meditate** on all your works and consider what your hands have done.

D. Apply the Word of God.