

## Changing Our Way Of Thinking For Success

I. We must learn to change our way of thinking.

**SEE THINGS AS THEY ARE (*THE REAL WORLD*),**

**NOW SEE THINGS AS THEY ARE (*THE SPIRITUAL WORLD*),**

**NOW SEE THINGS AS THEY COULD BE (*THE WORLD OF THE MIND*)**

**(NKJV) Ro 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.**

We must learn to rule out the voices of the world and focus on the voice of God. Thinking is what God is talking about. See the context with the third verse

**(NKJV) Ro 12:3 For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.**

1. The end results of meditation is that our thinking must lead us to the denial of self and the acknowledgment of God

B. It is the proper use of our mind that gives us the ability to be successful in life.

1. God gave us these minds. That it's what makes us different from all the other animals. We must learn to use them properly. Apart from the word of God, we are no different than any other creature that lives on this earth.
2. This is the reason that God told Joshua as well as to others, all throughout the Bible to be mindful as to how he is to think.
3. Jesus told us to be careful as to how we hear because our hearing affects our thinking.
  - a. Our thinking affects our speaking and are speaking effects of our actions. Our actions then, affect our future as they are choices that we make and we understand that life is choice driven, we live or die by the choices we make.

**(NKJV) Pr 23:7 For as he thinks in his heart, so is he.**

**(NKJV) Mk 4:24 Then He said to them, "Take heed what you hear. With the same measure you use, it will be measured to you; and to you who hear, more will be given.**

**(NKJV) Je 6:19 Hear, O earth! Behold, I will certainly bring calamity on this people— The fruit of their thoughts, Because they have not heeded My words Nor My law, but rejected it.**

C. God is very much concerned about how you think! What you think in your mind is what you have the ability to do. Remember when Peter walked on the water?

**(NKJV) Mt 14:25 Now in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went to them, walking on the sea. 26 And when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. 27 But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid." 28 And Peter answered Him and said, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water." 29 So He said, "Come." And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus. 30 But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!" 31 And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?"**

1. Do you remember how faith comes? it is for this reason God wants us to meditate on his word. Meditation on the word of God changes the way we think. It causes us to be faith filled.
- D. One of the most important things we need to do is to drown out all of the voices that are speaking to us and learn to hear specifically from the voice of God. This is done by the training of our minds to hear the voice of God from the
1. Remember, it was the voice of Satan that affected Adam and Eve's thinking?  
**(NKJV) Ge 3:11 And He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?"**

*More*

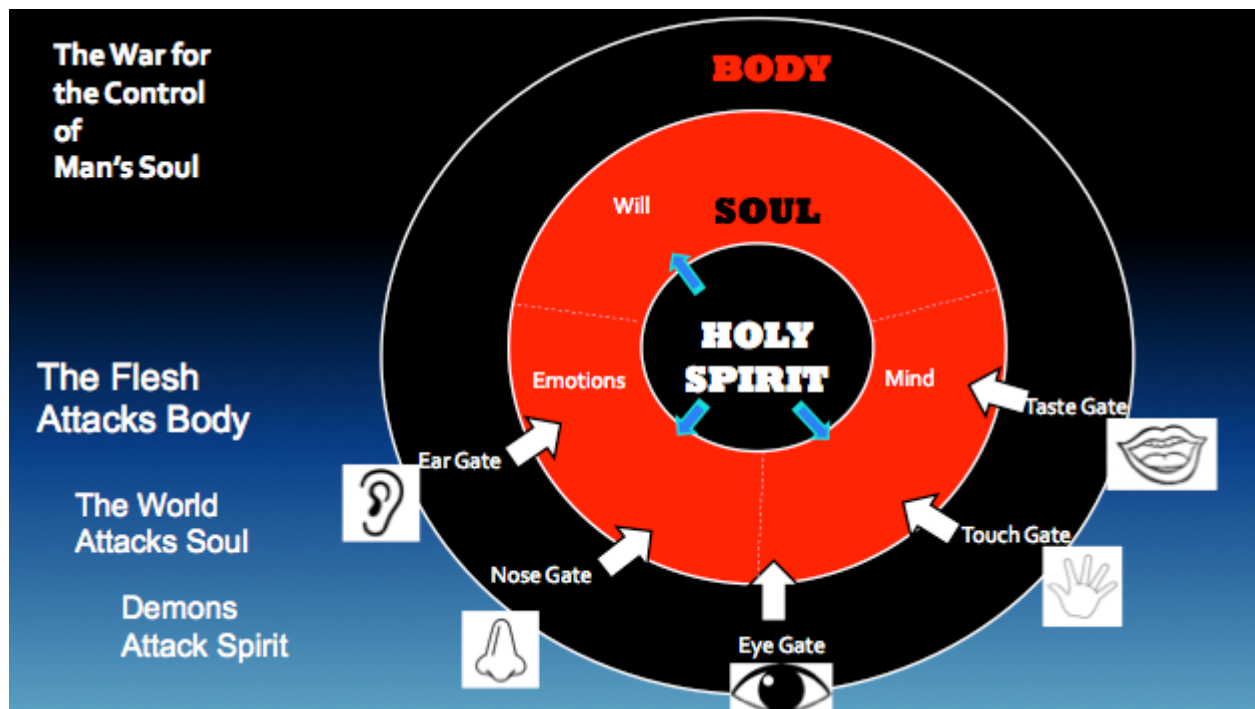
**(NKJV) Pr 1:28 "Then they will call on me, but I will not answer; They will seek me diligently, but they will not find me. 29 Because they hated knowledge And did not choose the fear of the LORD,**

**30 They would have none of my counsel And despised my every rebuke. 31 Therefore they shall eat the fruit of their own way, And be filled to the full with their own fancies.**

**32 For the turning away of the simple will slay them, And the complacency of fools will destroy them; 33 But whoever listens to me will dwell safely, And will be secure, without fear of evil."**

2. When we learn to block out the intrusion into our thinking by the world we are able to gain perception of the spiritual domain.
  3. We are able to see things the way God says they should be.
- E. Meditation helps us drown out the voices of the world so that we may better hear the voice of God.

- F. God's word to the new nation.  
 (NKJV) Dt 6:4 "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one! 5 You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.  
 6 "And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. 7 You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.  
 8 You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. 9 You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.



## II. The Effect of Meditation

- A. Psa 1  
 (NKJV) Ps 1:1 Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; 2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night. 3 He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.
- B. Psa 63  
 (NKJV) Ps 63:6 When I remember You on my bed, I meditate on You in the night watches. 7 Because You have been my help, Therefore in the shadow of Your wings I will rejoice. 8 My soul follows close behind You; Your right hand upholds me.

1. He thinks and remembers about God. He remembers how much God has helped him. And as he meditates on the goodness of God no matter how bad things might be at the moment, his confidence of the goodness, mercy and grace of God causes him to rejoice.
2. He rejoices when others do not rejoice. Through meditation he finds his joy in the Lord when others are falling.
3. He says my mind is glued to you! My thoughts are about you.
4. He has the confidence that God will lift him up and keep him up no matter what tomorrow will bring.

**MEDITATION ON THE GOODNESS OF GOD IN DARKNESS BRINGS  
THE LIGHT AND JOY OF THE LORD INTO ONE'S LIFE**

- 5.
- C. Psa 64  
**(NKJV) Ps 64:1 Hear my voice, O God, in my meditation; Preserve my life from fear of the enemy. 2 Hide me from the secret plots of the wicked, From the rebellion of the workers of iniquity,**

1. He is letting us know that when we meditate God hears our meditation. Whatever our thoughts are, whatever we are seeking in his word, God responds to it!

**THE PROCESS OF MEDITATION PROTECTS ONE FROM THE WORKERS OF INIQUITY.**

2. While others are plotting to destroy him, is meditation on the Lord will protect him.

- D. Psa 77  
**(NKJV) Ps 77:6 I call to remembrance my song in the night; I meditate within my heart, And my spirit makes diligent search.**

**7 Will the Lord cast off forever? And will He be favorable no more? 8 Has His mercy ceased forever? Has His promise failed forevermore? 9 Has God forgotten to be gracious? Has He in anger shut up His tender mercies? Selah**

**10 And I said, "This is my anguish; But I will remember the years of the right hand of the Most High." 11 I will remember the works of the LORD; Surely I will remember Your wonders of old. 12 I will also meditate on all Your work, And talk of Your deeds. 13 Your way, O God, is in the sanctuary; Who is so great a God as our God? 14 You are the God who does wonders; You have declared Your strength among the peoples. 15 You have with Your arm redeemed Your people, The sons of Jacob and Joseph. Selah**

- 1.
- E. Psa 104

**(NKJV) Ps 104:33 I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have my being. 34 May my meditation be sweet to Him; I will be glad in the LORD.**

1. It may not mean anything to us, but God enjoys you focusing on him.
  - a. He says he will sing to the Lord
  - b. Meditation is good for us and pleasant to God.
2. I shall be delighted thus to think of his works and think of his person, and he will graciously accept my notes of praise.
3. Meditation is the heart of our faith. It is the tree of life in the midst of the forest of troubles of the world. Its fruit is refreshing to the soul which feeds upon it.

**MEDITATION IS A TREE OF LIFE IN THE MIDST OF THE TROUBLES OF THE WORLD.**

**ITS FRUIT IS REFRESHING TO THE SOUL WHICH FEEDS UPON IT**

4. He will be glad in the Lord. What is there to be sad in the Lord

F. **Psa 119 A exposition of Psalm 1.** Meditations on the word of God

**(NKJV) Ps 119:1 Blessed are the undefiled in the way, Who walk in the law of the LORD! 2 Blessed are those who keep His testimonies, Who seek Him with the whole heart! 3 They also do no iniquity; They walk in His ways.**

1. A blessing is related to those who meditate on his word!  
**(NKJV) Ps 119:9 How can a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your word. 10 With my whole heart I have sought You; Oh, let me not wander from Your commandments! 11 Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You.**

**12 Blessed are You, O LORD! Teach me Your statutes. 13 With my lips I have declared All the judgments of Your mouth. 14 I have rejoiced in the way of Your testimonies, As much as in all riches.**

**15 I will meditate on Your precepts, And contemplate Your ways. 16 I will delight myself in Your statutes; I will not forget Your word.**

**(NKJV) Ps 119:23 Princes also sit and speak against me, But Your servant meditates on Your statutes. 24 Your testimonies also are my delight And my counselors.**

*Instead of fighting back railing for railing his focus would be on the word of God. From God's word he would find joy!*

*Remember, God is with the one that meditate on his word.*  
*What harm can man do to him?*

What do you think God's attitude is toward those who stop His servants from thinking on him?

**THOSE WHO MEDITATE ON GOD'S WORD GROW STRONG AND PEACEFUL!**

**(NKJV) Ps 119:27 Make me understand the way of Your precepts; So shall I meditate on Your wonderful works.**

**WE MUST DO MORE THAN JUST KNOW THE WORD OF GOD  
WE MUST SEEK TO UNDERSTAND HIS WORD**

2. Once we understand we can meditate and talk about his wonderful works in our life and how his word brought them to pass.
  - a. We then become teachers of his word.

**WHEN OUR HEARTS ARE OPENED TO UNDERSTAND,  
OUR LIPS WILL BE OPENED TO COMMAND CHANGES TO OUR REALITY**

- G. We will bring everything into submission to the word of God.  
**(NKJV) 2 Co 10:3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. 4 For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, 5 casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,**