June 5, 2016 Philippians 4:8

HAVING A PURE MIND IN AN IMPURE WORLD

I. Introduction:

"Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. 2] Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is, his good, pleasing and perfect will." Romans 12:1-2

"Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, Whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable, if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things." Philippians 4:8

"To the pure, all things are pure, but to those who are corrupted and do not believe, nothing is pure. In fact, both their minds and consciences are corrupted." Titus 1:15

Basic Assumption: A Pure Mind = A Pure Thought Life

II. Four Truths About Our Thought Life;

A. What We Think About is What We _____

"As a man thinks in his heart, so he is." Proverbs 23:7 (KJV)

B. What We Think About Is A _____

C. Our Thought Life Needs Constant _____

"I will set before my eyes, not vile thing" Ps. 101:3

D. Our Thought Life Can Be _____

"We take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ." 2 Corinthians 10:5

III. Developing Or Maintaining A Healthy Thought Life.

A. _____ our thought life is not what it should be.

"If we confess our sins to God he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." I John 1:9

B _____ the results of an impure thought life.

"Sow a thought, reap and action. Sow an action, reap a habit, sow a habit, reap a character, sow a character, reap a destiny."

7]" Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. 8] The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life." Galatians 6:7-8

C. _____ the sources.

"Flee Immorality...." I Corinthians 6:8

D. _____ God's Word.

"How can a young man keep his way pure? By keeping it according to Your Word." Your Word I have treasured in my heart that I may not sin against you." Psalm 119:9,11 'Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful." Joshua 1:8

POINTS TO PONDER Week of June 5th to June 11th Having A Pure Mind In An Impure World Philippians 4:8

Open It:

- 1. How do you tend to respond when things don't go your way?
- 2. *What does it take to live at peace with difficult family members or colleagues?

Explore It:

- 3. How did Paul feel toward the Philippian congregation? (4:1)
- 4. What did Paul exhort the Philippian believers to do? (4:1)
- 5. *Why did Paul plead with Euodia and Syntyche? (4:2)
- 6. How had Euodia and Syntyche helped Paul in the past? (4:3)
- 7. What was Paul's relationship with Clement? (4:3)
- 8. How could Paul count on his "loyal yokefellow"? (4:3)
- 9. What did Paul encourage his readers to do? (4:4)
- 10.*How did Paul tell the Philippian Christians to treat others? (4:5)
- 11. How should an awareness of Christ's imminent return affect a person's attitude? (<u>4:5-7</u>)

- 12. What did Paul say about anxiety? (4:6-7)
- 13. What were the Philippians to do instead of worrying? (4:6-7)
- 14. *How can a believer enjoy the peace of God? (4:6-7)

15. What are the qualities of wholesome thoughts? (4:8)

- 16. What were the Philippians to put into practice? (4:9)
- 17. How can believers enjoy the presence of the God of peace? (4:9)

Get It:

- 18. How have disagreements between people affected your church?
- 19. *When have you been involved in helping Christians resolve differences?
- 20. How can you have a peaceful spirit?
- 21.*If you were more thankful, joyful, and gentle, how might your family and friends be affected?

22. What does it take for you to think worthy thoughts?

- 23. What does it mean to live a righteous life-style?
- 24. In what areas of your life do you need to follow Paul's example?

Apply It:

- 25. What can you do today to reduce your level of anxiety?
- 26.*How can you be an effective peacemaker this week?