

Think

Following Christ – Focusing Correctly – Fighting Challenges

Philippians 4:8

4/26/2015

⁸Finally, 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.

The Bible excels in **practical** helps, **positive** living and **proper** theology.

Christianity WORKS – It is pragmatic!!

I should concentrate on my thinking as much as my lifestyle and theology,

a. To **PLEASE** my Heavenly Father.

In response to Calvary's love, I want to **OBEY** and **PLEASE** Him!

b. To achieve my maximum **POTENTIAL** and **PLEASURE**.

He wants each of us to fully live and excel at our calling!

We all have challenges.

We all can make our "list".

Paul certainly had a list.

Paul experienced a transformation that caused him to serve his God with a zeal that endured immense,

- **PHYSICAL** and
- **EMOTIONAL** challenges.

This is best summed up when he states in Galatians,

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. (2:20)

His abandon was in response to His Savior's love.

His focus was a result of his Christian experience and his dedication to that love.

Today, let's lay three issues on our *Thinking Right Project* "workbench":

1. Thinking is largely about **FOCUS** and **ATTITUDE**.

- It can be more **INWARD** than outward.
- It is often **PRIVATE** as well as **PUBLIC**.

2. It is **HARD**.

- Because of the **WORLD** we **LIVE** in.
- Because of the **CIRCUMSTANCES** we **EXPERIENCE**.

3. It is **SCRIPTURAL**.

CLOSE

We all need "Philippian Thinking"

☺ It is self-defeating to have a negative attitude about attitude!

Our attitude is also the top evangelical tool we possess.