

Wednesday July 18, 2018

**Topic: Having A Conditioned Mind**

Text: Philippians 2: 5 ESV

*"<sup>5</sup> Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus"*

The most proven way to avoid costly mistakes in life is, to put your mind in check.

Putting your mind in check is having your mind conditioned to think one way, and that's God's way.

To condition your mind is simply to have it under control. And you can have it under control by always monitoring what comes into your mind.

It is very dangerous and quite reckless to let your mind get out of control.

Satan has designed several things to cloud your mind, so you won't have the ability to have stability in all areas of your life.

James 1:8 KJV states

*"A double minded man is unstable in all his ways."*

And by the way, an unstable man is unable to know what the will of God is for his life.

Romans 12:2 ESV

*"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."*

It is important that you live your life having your mind conditioned by the word of God.

You must govern and protect what gets into your thought process. Because you never want your mind to operate without some form of governance.

This is why Paul shared with us in Philippians 4: 8 the best way to govern our thinking.

*“<sup>8</sup> Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.”*

It is your responsibility to govern what goes into your mind, which will ultimately affect your thinking. Your thinking plays an important role in your future.

How you govern it will determine whether or not you succeed, or fail in life. What's preventing many in the body of Christ from achieving success is a reckless mind.

They don't have control over their thinking.

As a Christian, you must govern your mind by filtering what comes into it, and to make sure you don't become reckless in your thinking, conceited, arrogant, self-righteous, judgmental and rude.

You can no longer let the traditions, or ideas of the world influence your mind and at the same time expect to have a controlled mindset.

Romans 12:2 ESV

*“<sup>2</sup> Do not be conformed to this world,<sup>[a]</sup> but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.”*

Ephesians 4:22-24 ESV

*“<sup>22</sup> to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires,*

*<sup>23</sup> and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds,*

*<sup>24</sup> and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness”*

I hope you see the importance of you having a conditioned mind and how doing so can keep you in the will of God and help you avoid wrong thinking.

You see wrong thinking robs you of the opportunity to obtain knowledge. And knowledge is the key to unlocking the door to a brighter future.

Let's talk about how one can have a conditioned mind.

I believe the only way you can have a conditioned mind is when you program your thinking to be a reflection of the word of God.

Colossians 3: 2 ESV

*"Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth."*

1 Peter [1: 13-16](#) ESV

*“<sup>13</sup> Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.*

*<sup>14</sup> As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, <sup>1</sup>*

*<sup>5</sup> but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct,*

*<sup>16</sup> since it is written, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.”*

Let me give you 4 ways you can condition your mind to right thinking:

1. Meditate on the word daily

Joshua 1:8 ESV

*"<sup>8</sup> This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success."*

2. Don't speculate.

Don't allow yourself to speculate especially when facts are not evident.

John [7: 24](#) ESV

*"Do not judge by appearances, but judge with right judgment."*

-Many Christian people have messed up their lives, home, family, marriage, career, business by speculating and responding without having the facts.

-Here are the 3 spirits produced when you speculate without facts:

1. The spirit of assumption
2. The spirit of suspicion
3. The spirit of distrust

3. Keep people with godly qualities around you. Your relationship and closeness with people will ultimately frame your character.

Proverbs [13:20](#) ESV

*"Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm."*

4. Constantly audit yourself to ensure you are doing all of the above; and if you are not, start doing them.

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4. Constantly audit yourself.