



SERMON #2: Thinking With the Mind of Christ

I Corinthians 1-2 (Key Verse: 2:16)

The SPIRIT (Mind of Christ) and the BODY (Flesh, World, and Satan) are competing for control over the SOUL (Mind, Will, Emotions)

There Five Stages of Accepting Any New Truth:

- Revelation
- Consideration
- Conflict
- Replacement
- Implementation

Review the model of thought from last week – how the 5 initiators of thought enter the battlefield; how conscious and subconscious beliefs come onto the battlefield looking for allies or foes and who will determine the outcome.

Job 20:2 "Therefore my anxious thoughts make me answer, Because of the turmoil within me."

Pr 16:3 "Commit your works to the LORD, And your thoughts will be established."

READ: 2Co 10:4 For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, 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 and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled.

I. Step One in Thinking With the Mind of Christ: HUMILITY

WHITEBOARD:

GREEK: Intellect

JEWS: Religion

Both of these are extreme strongholds that create PRIDE. Pride resists revelation. It is defensive and condescending to others. The Corinthians operated in both of these areas which made the doubly dangerous!

II. Step Two in Thinking With the Mind of Christ: DISCIPLINE

You are having your thought processes rewired – a different way of thinking creates a different life. This takes discipline to introduce the sentry (will) onto the field of battle and take every thought captive.

III. Step Three in Thinking With the Mind of Christ: MATURITY

Maturity is measured by two things: TIME and EXPERINCE. Thinking with the mind of Christ is a journey not a destination.

READ: 1Co 2:6 "However, we speak wisdom among those who are mature, yet not the wisdom of this age, nor of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing."

1Co 14:20 "Brethren, do not be children in understanding; however, in malice be babes, but in understanding be mature."

Php 3:15 "Therefore let us, as many as are mature, have this mind; and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal even this to you."



IV. Step Four in Thinking with the Mind of Christ: THINKING THESE THOUGHTS...

(1) Thoughts of God's Love for Me – Not that He is angry with me!

READ: **Ps 40:5** Many, O LORD my God, are Your wonderful works Which You have done; And Your thoughts toward us Cannot be recounted to You in order; If I would declare and speak of them, They are more than can be numbered.

READ: **Ps 139:17** ¶ How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! How great is the sum of them!

READ: **Jer 29:11** For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.

(2) Thoughts of Love and Service for Others – Not bitterness and unforgiveness!

We need to love others not just by thought but also by deed

READ: **Php 2:3-5** “Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus”

(3) Thoughts of Praise, Gratitude and Thanksgiving – Not complaining!

We need to praise the Lord at every conscious moment

READ: **Heb 13:15** “Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name.”

(4) Thoughts of Faith, Positivity and Optimism – Not negativity!

Think positive thoughts

(5) Thoughts of Peace and Meditation = Not worry and anxiety!

Bring yourself to a place of peace with thoughts that combat fear and worry.

READ: **Php 4:6** “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God.”