

Which of these seven qualities do you most need to develop next? How eager are you to do the work needed?

Do you see a logical progression in these qualities? What is the danger if we don't pursue them? (v. 9)

Does this passage imply that it is possible for a Christian to be saved but not experience in this life the righteousness and maturity that is available to him or her? How can this be avoided? (v. 10)

Does this passage motivate you to desire and develop godly righteousness in your life? If not, what does?

#### REFLECT

As a follower of Christ, how confident are you that you will face any future life challenge faithfully and righteously? What would keep you from doing so?

#### RESPOND

Write your name on one side of a 3x5 card. On the other side, write at the top one quality from the passage that you most want to develop. Every day this week ask God to help you develop this trait. Note the opportunities you have to grow in this area. Share your pursuit with another person who will pray for you.



**OUTLOOK**  
CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
outlookchurch.org  
317.335.6815



#### 2 Corinthians 10:3-5

For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

### WE MUST GUARD OUR THOUGHTS.

All our actions and decisions begin as thoughts, so we must be careful about what we think and what thoughts and ideas we accept and reject.

#### Matthew 16:21-24

<sup>23</sup> Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns."

The unguarded mind is the devil's playground.

#### Acts 4:34-5:8

<sup>3</sup> Then Peter said, "Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that you have lied to the Holy Spirit... <sup>4</sup> What made you think of doing such a thing? You have not lied just to human beings but to God."

J.M. Njoroge  
The more I study the Word of God and the nature of the spiritual problems that plague human beings, the more convinced I become that ideas are the most effective of all our enemy's tools.

## WE MUST GUIDE OUR THOUGHTS.

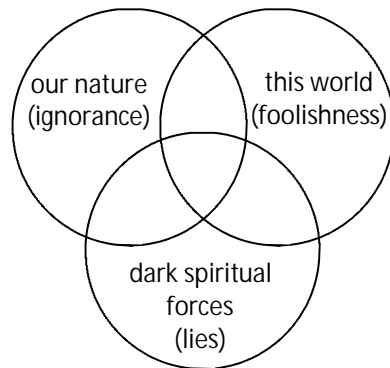
Avoid these "thinkholes" at all costs!

Psalm 19:7-8

The law of the LORD is perfect,  
refreshing the soul.

The statutes of the LORD are  
trustworthy,  
making wise the simple...

The commands of the LORD are radiant,  
giving light to the eyes.



---

---

Dr. Neil Anderson in *Walking through the Darkness*

God knows what the primary strategy of Satan is. He knows that if Satan can operate undetected in any home, church, family, committee, or person, and get people to believe a lie, he can control their lives. That is the battle going on for our minds.

Hebrews 4:12-13

For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Philippians 4:8

Finally, brothers and sisters, 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.

Dallas Willard in *Renovation of the Heart*  
The prospering of God's cause on earth depends upon his people thinking well...Bluntly, to serve God well we must think straight; and crooked thinking, unintentional or not, always favors evil...To take the "information" of Scripture into a mind thinking straight under the direction and empowerment of the Holy Spirit, by contrast, is to place our feet solidly on the high road of spiritual formation under God."

# TRUTH AND RIGHTEOUSNESS

## LIFE GROUP STUDY

### RELATE

As a teenager looking ahead at your life, what did you consider most important?

Name an activity that you used to enjoy but are no longer interested in doing.

What principle, insight, idea or quote was meaningful to you from this week's sermon?

### READ

2 Peter 1:1-11

What have those who know Jesus and been drawn by his goodness and glory receive? What is "everything we need for life (v. 3-4)?"

What causes this world to be so bad, and how can we escape being caught up in it (v.4)?

If "everything" is given to us, why do we need to "add to our faith?" What kind of effort must Christians make to grow in these areas?

Briefly define or describe each of the qualities mentioned in verses 5-7. Choose one that God has helped you develop and explain how that worked in your life.