

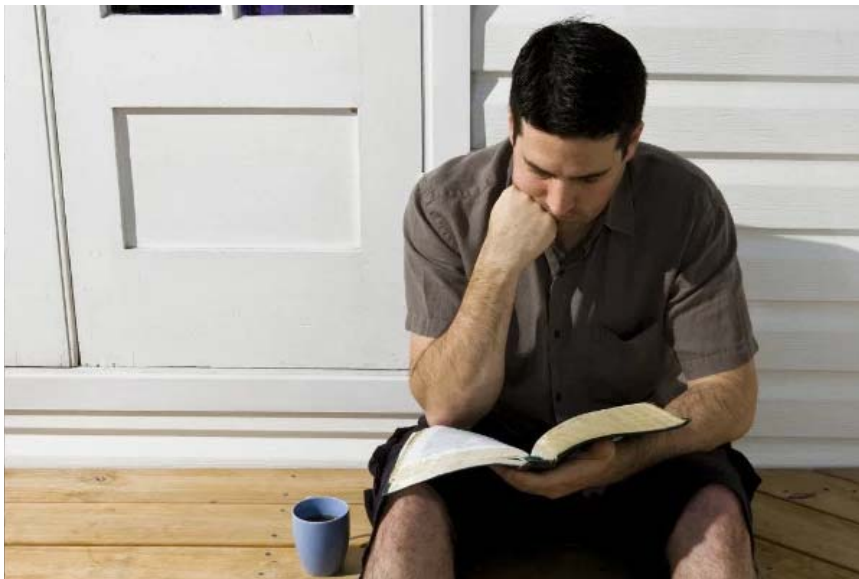
The Bible gives us clear guidelines—spelling out the kinds of things we should think about. For example, Psalm 1:2 and Psalm 119:97 tell us to meditate on God's Word day and night. That should be our first priority in the thinking department.

But we have a life to live, and we can't spend all of our waking moments meditating on Scripture. Yet even when we are thinking about the mundane aspects of life, we need guidance. Paul told us that we should think about things that are true, noble, just, pure, lovely, of good report, virtuous, and praiseworthy (Philippians 4:8). In our daily activities, those words should govern what is on our mind.

When our head "talks to itself," it needs to say, "Keep the impure and ungodly thoughts out of here!" When we're thinking that way, we'll know what to do, how to behave, where to go, and what to say. —Dave Branon

*Let us think about what's good—  
What's right and pure and true;  
May God's Word control our thoughts  
In everything we do. —Fitzhugh*

**Right thinking leads to right living.**



# Central Mountains Baptist Church

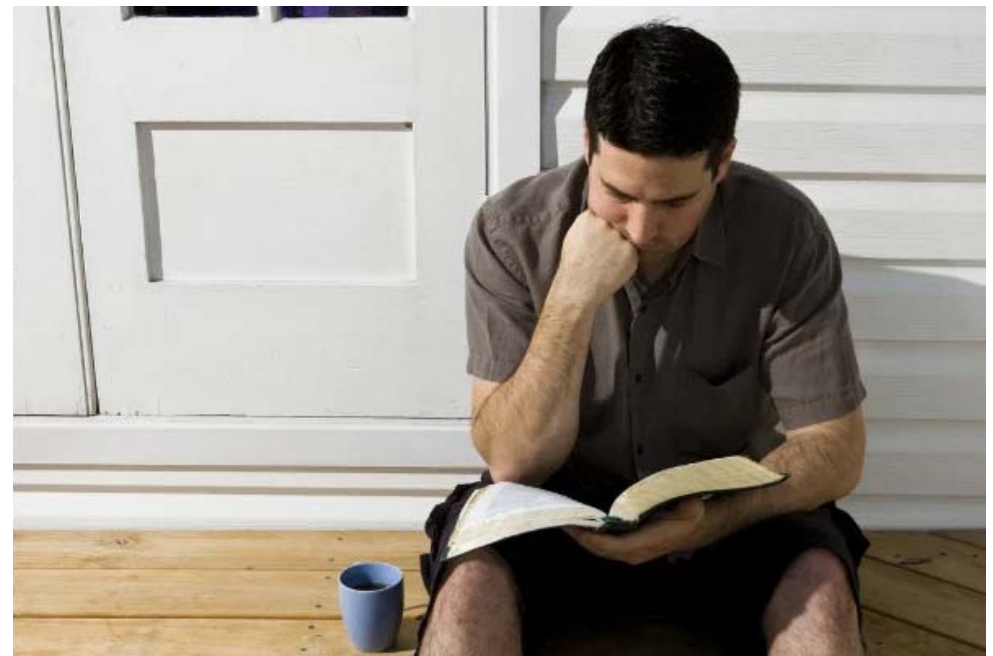
## DECEMBER 9, 2018

### Think About It

**If there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things. —Philippians 4:8**

According to one little boy, "Thinking is when your mouth stays shut and your head keeps talking to itself."

The way our head talks to itself tells a lot about how we are doing morally and spiritually. To guard our mind and to keep out the influences that will hinder our walk with God is to use our mind in the way He desires.



# Insights for Living Standfast in Thought



- #1. Standfast in harmony, v2-3
- #2. Standfast in joy, v4
- #3. Standfast in gentleness, v5
- #4. Standfast in peace, v6-7
- #5. Standfast in thought, v8
- #6. Standfast in action, v9

**(Proverbs 23:7)** "For as he thinks in his heart, so is he. ..."

The checklist in Philippians 4:8 refers to two aspects of thinking:

## 1. Assessing

\_\_\_\_\_, verse 8

### ◆ True

**(Matthew 22:16)** "... Teacher, we know that You are true, ..."

**(2 Corinthians 4:2)** "But we have renounced the hidden things of shame, not walking in craftiness nor handling the word of God deceitfully, but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God."

**(Acts 17:11)** "...were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so."

### ◆ Noble

**(1 Timothy 3:8)** "Likewise deacons must be reverent, ..."

### ◆ Just

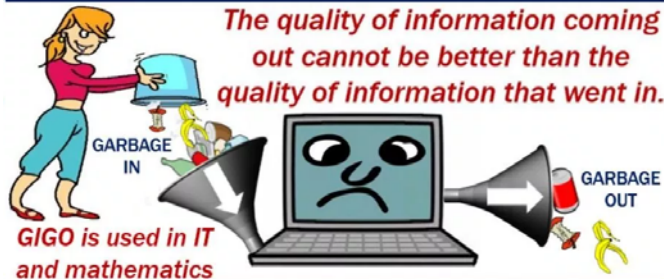
**(Matthew 5:45)** "... He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust."

**(Matthew 25:46)** "...And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

### ◆ Pure

**(2 Corinthians 11:2)** "... For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ."

## What is GIGO?



**Garbage In, Garbage Out**

**(1 John 3:3)** "And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure."

- ◆ Lovely
- ◆ Good report

**(1 Peter 2:9)** "But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;"

**(2 Peter 1:3)** "as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue,"

**(Job 31:1)** "'I have made a covenant with my eyes; Why then should I look upon a young woman?"

**(Psalms 101:3-4)** "I will set nothing wicked before my eyes; I hate the work of those who fall away; It shall not cling to me. {4} A perverse heart shall depart from me; I will not know wickedness."

## 2. Assessing \_\_\_\_\_, verse 8

**(Mark 7:20-23)** "... What comes out of a man, that defiles a man. {21} "For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, {22} "thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness. {23} "All these evil things come from within and defile a man.""

**(Proverbs 23:7)** "For as he thinks in his heart, so is he. ..."



Philippians 4:8 filters out poor input

