Becoming One in 2021 Part 10 handout

Thinking Like Jesus

Genesis 3:2-14 (KJV)

1. Sin affects our thinking and imaginations.

A. Sin affected their thinking. All of mankind's thinking was in the dark because of sin. Light comes with life; darkness comes with death. Darkness cannot comprehend light or life that comes with it. **John 1:4-5 (KJV)**

B. For the first time they saw life without the light of God. Eyes that open without God can only see in darkness.

C. They covered themselves because of fear and shame, the new filters of their fallen perception. These are the same filters of the cancel culture.

D. The woman blamed the devil. The man blamed the woman and then he blamed God who gave him the woman. Now that's some dark corrupted thinking. Who did the serpent or devil blame? He didn't. He's not the blamer, He the accuser.

E. Man's spirit is the place where light and life illuminate and rejuvenate him. **Proverbs 20:27 (KJV) Psalm** 18:28 (KJV)

F. The ten virgins who were preparing for the Bridegroom to come were not all ready.

Only Five had oil in their lamps, the other Five ran out of oil for their journey. Our spirits are our lamps and illumination come from the oil of the Holy Spirit.

G. They trimmed their wicks, everything in their lives that would not allow the oil to flow through. Unforgiveness, bitterness, habitual sin has to be trimmed if we are going to have Holy Spirit supplied light and life.

H. What do all of the things that put our lights out have in common? They all began with dead dark thinking!

I. God is, has and always will be aware of our thoughts and imaginations. Genesis 6:5-6 (KJV)⁵

J. Our thoughts and imaginations are like the coming attractions at the movies. Coming to a theater in you and then through you.

K. Jeremiah the Prophet said that houses of Israel and Judah would become unified after they no longer walked after the evil imaginations of their hearts. Jeremiah 3:17-18 (KJV)¹⁷

L. Offenses can be magnified in our imaginations even after we have forgiven the offense. Or they can be stopped by refusing them re-entry in our imaginations.

M. To think like Jesus we have to refuse wounded, dark and sinful imaginations. Dark wounded imaginations have plenty of company.

N. Hopelessness leads to evil imaginations. Martin Luther King Jr famously said, "keep hope alive!" He knew where things would go if there was no hope. He took the high moral ground of demonstrating nonviolently even when opposed by the violent. Jeremiah 18:11-12 (KJV)

O. We don't always have control over what people with evil imaginations do to us, but we do have control over what it does to our imaginations (which will predict our coming actions!)

P. No matter what religious people say to you to justify your dark and evil imaginations, they will become the end of you. The world has their religious prophets too. **Jeremiah 23:16-19 (KJV)**

Q. Pride likes to hide in dark and evil imaginations. Luke 1:51 (KJV)

R. Rage and pride go along with evil imaginations. Anger and pride add fuel to the evil imaginations. Acts 4:24-26 (KJV)

2. We can choose to have good thoughts and imaginations 1 Peter 1:13 (KJV)

A. Gird up the loins of your mind. The loins are the place where procreation takes place. When we gird up the loins of our mind, we're gathering together the creative resources of the mind.

B. There is a connection with your loins and your light. Your loins are your heart or spiritual mind. Luke 12:34-36 (KJV)

C. Your imagination is your seeker. Unless we are imagining God's will, we will not be looking for its manifestation. Luke 12:29-32 (KJV)

D. The world uses its imagination to worry and envision their problems, dangers and opposition. We are to use our imaginations for receiving and giving.

E. Until our imaginations are in the light, we are not ready for the Lord's coming. Our imaginations are where we meet the Lord until He comes in person. **Revelation 3:20 (KJV)**

3. Imagination is where the battle of victory or defeat takes place. 2 Corinthians 10:3-6 (KJV)

A. The battle for obedience is fought in the mind in the thoughts and imaginations.

B. Imaginations come from where we focus our thinking. 2 Corinthians 10:7 (KJV)

C. Our actions are the physical manifestations of our thinking and imaginations.

D. Anxious fearful thoughts must be replaced in prayer with better thoughts.

E. There's no stronger hold in our lives than the ones in our imaginations. We must replace bad and unhealthy imaginations with good imaginations. Thoughts are the building blocks of our imaginations. **Philippians 4:6-9 (KJV)**

F. Think on things that are:

- True
- Honest
- Just
- Pure
- Lovely
- Of good report
- Virtuous
- Praiseworthy
- G. Don't think on (or replace) things that are:

- Lies, untruths about yourself and others.
- Compromising things that you can get away with, schemes.
- Unjust things done to you or done by you that have been forgiven.
- Impure things, sexual, immoral you've done or done to you.
- Bad things said about you or that could happen to you.
- Your unvirtuous past, or forgiven transgressions
- Criticisms, or being critical.
- Ungrateful thoughts, thoughts about what you deserve or don't have.

F. Affective prayer is prayer that believes you receive (you receive it in your imagination) when you pray not when it manifests in the natural.

G. Imaginations are built by desires and thoughts. We choose the focus, and the thoughts and imaginations follow.

H. The early church knew how to respond to hurtful angry evil imaginations that came against them. Acts 4:25-32 (KJV)

I. They had a strategy they acted upon:

- They did not take offense; they went on the offensive in God.
- They spoke and thought about the Word not the problem.
- They thought and prayed for God to deal with it since He had already predicted it and planned for it.
- They thought and prayed for boldness to speak the Word while they were being opposed and threatened. They didn't think about their rights or revenge.
- They thought and prayed for the Lord to stretch forth His hand to heal and that signs and wonders be done in the name of Jesus!
- They replaced evil imaginations with God moving imaginations. They did not think about what, the devil was going to do, but what God was going to do.
- God shook that place; they didn't shake in the place of fear.
- They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke boldly the Word of God.
- They were all unified victors. They weren't all trying to protect and defend themselves. They weren't fighting injustice; they were carrying out kingdom justice together.