

YOUR MIND IS THE KEY TO LIVING IN PERFECT PEACE!

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TEXT:

Isaiah 26:3

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

SUBJ: Your mind is the Key to living in perfect peace!

INTRO: There's a lot of stuff going on in the world today and we're being inundated AND filled up with a lot of NEGATIVE NEWS, on top of everything that we have going on in our personal lives and I believe a lot of us don't have any peace in our lives because of what we're thinking about in our minds!

(EXP#) Some of us are thinking about our job situation!

(EXP#) Some of us are thinking about our financial circumstances!

(NOTE: Thinking about the bills that are piled up on the table

(EXP#) Some of us are thinking about our marriage and family life!

(EXP#) Some of us are thinking about our health situation and what the doctor said!

BUT THE KEY TO LIVING IN THE PERFECT PEACE OF GOD IS YOUR MIND!

I've learned people of GOD, that it is important for us to monitor the things that we think about and what goes on in our mind, because our mind is the engine that drives our life!

Solomon said in
Proverbs 23:7
For as he THINKETH, in his heart, so is he

(EXPOND) What you think in your mind, is what you really are.

(EXP#) If you think that you're more than a conqueror, then you're more than a conqueror!

But if you think you're defeated, then you're defeated!

(EXP#) If you think that you're blessed and highly favored, then you're blessed and highly favored!

Because YOU ARE, WHAT YOU THINK YOU ARE!

(STORY) I shared this story one day with our church, how one day I was sitting at home watching TV. And I saw this BlueBell Ice Cream commercial, and there was this Grandfather and his grandson sitting on the porch eating some Homemade Vanilla BlueBell ice cream. And the song on the commercial said, "BlueBell the best Ice Cream in the Country!"

So after the commercial went off, I started thinking to myself, "You know I have some Homemade Vanilla Bluebell Ice Cream in the freezer....and I have some pecans....some caramel sauce." And before you know it, I was sitting on the sofa eating a bowl of Homemade Vanilla Bluebell Ice Cream with caramel sauce and pecans on top!"

But it all started with a thought in my mind!

(NOTE: That's why you have to monitor the things that you let take root in your mind!)

Proverbs 4:23

Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

(CEV)

Carefully guard your thoughts because they are the source of true life.

(EXPOND) Your thoughts are the source of the real you!

Paul said in

Colossians 3:2

Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

(EXPOND) You need to think on the things above, because they'll lift you up, and not on the things on earth, because they'll mess you up!

(NOTE: This stuff down here, will make you want to get out of here!) It can mess up, tear you up, bring you down and break you down.

So you have to think on the things that are up, because they'll bring you up!

(EXP#) Think on his MERCY that is new to you each every day!

(EXP#) Think on how his GRACE is sufficient for you and in your weakness, his strength is made perfect!

(EXP#) Think on how he'll never leave you nor forsake and how he's with you even until the end of the world!

(EXP#) Think on how he said in the midst of trouble you can call him and he shall deliver you.

(EXP#) Think on how no weapon form against you shall never prosper.

(EXP#) Think on how he shall supply all your need according to his riches and glory in Christ Jesus.

James said in

James 1:17

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

(EXPOUND) The things from above are good and perfect, because they come from good and perfect GOD!

And what makes him good and perfect, is that he does not change.

(NOTE: He's immutable.....that means he can't change if he tried to.) He's the same GOD yesterday, today and forever more!

You need to think on those things!

Philippians 4:8

Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

(QUESTION) How do we control what's on our minds and the things we think on?

BODY:

#1 Rebuke anything in your mind that is not of GOD!

(EXPOUND) If it ain't from GOD, it ain't good, so get rid of it for good!

2 Corinthians 10:5

Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ

(EXPOUND) That means you have to pull down, throw away and Get rid of anything that goes against GOD, and bring your mind under subjection and authority in the name of JESUS!

(NOTE: Take authority over your mind in the name of JESUS!)

(EXP#) They talked about you and lied on you, you need to cuss them out!

No, I rebuke this thought in the name of JESUS. (GOD said for me to turn the other cheek!)

(EXP#) They did you wrong, you need to get them!

No, I rebuke this thought in the name of JESUS. (GOD said vengeance is mine and to love those who mistreat me!)

(EXP#) The doctor said there's nothing else they can do and you might die!

No, I rebuke this thought in the name of JESUS. (By his stripes I'm already healed and I have power and authority over all sickness, illness and disease!)

You have to Rebuke anything that is not of GOD!

2 Corinthians 10:5

Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God!

(EXPOUND) The word CASTING - is a continual thing!

(NOTE: That means you have to keep doing it and never stop!)

#2 Keep your mind in the word!

(EXPOUND) If we keep our minds in the word, we won't have time to think about anything else!

David said in

Psalm 1:1-2

1 Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. 2 But his delight is in the law of the Lord ; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

(EXPOUND) I don't have time for foolishness OR foolish people. I'm trying to keep my mind in the word!

Because if I keep my mind in the word, then the word will keep my mind!

(EXP#) The word will keep my mind from losing it, when I hear that doctors report, because I already know that by his stripes I'm healed.

(EXP#) The word will keep my mind from going crazy, when I hear these people talking about job, because I already know that no weapon formed against me shall prosper.

(EXP#) The word will keep my mind from being depressed, when I hear about all that's happening, because I already know that all things work together for good, to them who love GOD and are the called according to his purpose.

The word will keep your mind.

Matthew 4:5-7

5 Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of

the temple, 6 And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. 7 Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.

(EXPOUND) See if keep your mind in the word, the devil can't mess with your mind about the word!

(NOTE: You have to keep your mind in the word, because it's the word that keeps you!)

Revelation 3:10

Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.

(EXPOUND) It's the word that's keeping you during trouble of the world!

#3 Be careful who you allow to speak into your mind!

(EXPOUND) You have to guard your mind by not listening to everybody and not letting everybody speak into your life!

(QUESTION) Do you know how many people are messed up today because of what they heard from somebody?

(EXP#) You ain't going never be nothing! You can't do that! You ain't nobody!

(EXP#) You're going to be just like your daddy!

People have been messed up because of what they've allowed their ears to hear!
(NOTE: That's why you have to guard your ears!)

JESUS said in

Mark 4:23-24

23 If any man have ears to hear, let him hear. 24 And he said unto them, Take heed what ye hear: with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you: and unto you that hear shall more be given.

(MESSAGE)

23 Are you listening to this? Really listening? 24 Listen carefully to what I am saying-and be wary of the shrewd advice that tells you how to get ahead in the world on your own.

(EXPOUND) If you don't guard your ears from what you hear, it'll be easy for people to make you compromise yourself!

And then you find yourself doing stuff that you shouldn't do!

Paul said in

1 Corinthians 15:33

Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.

(EXPOUND) If you communicate with the wrong people, you'll start doing the wrong thing!

(EXP#) Just put his name on your tax return, they ain't going to know!

(EXP#) Just say you were with me, I'll cover for you.

(EXP#) Just do it, ain't nobody gonna know. (Yes I will and GOD will!)

That's why you have guard what you hear, because before you know it, you'll start compromising yourself!

Genesis 3:1-7

1 Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? 2 And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: 3 But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. 4 And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: 5 For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. 6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. 7 And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

(EXPOUND) Sin and disobedience was introduced into the world because Adam and Eve didn't guard their ears from what they heard!

See, if you don't guard your ears to protect your mind, you put yourself in the position to be easily deceived and destroyed.

(QUESTION) How do we guard our ears?

Proverbs 4:20

My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings.

(EXPOUND) Tune your ears to what GOD is saying in his word!

If what somebody says doesn't line up with the word of GOD, turn a deaf ear to it!

CONCLUSION:

#4 Keep your mind subject to GOD!

(EXPOUND) We have to make sure that our minds are always subject to GOD!

Isaiah 26:3

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

(EXPOUND) When you learn to keep your mind on GOD, GOD will keep your mind in perfect peace!

2 Corinthians 10:5

Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ

(EXPOUND) The word CASTING - is a continual thing!

That means you have to keep doing it and never stop!

(EXPOUND) You have to keep your mind under subjection to GOD!

