

# The Battlefield

Matt Sturdevant Lead Pastor September 21, 2025

# **Anxiety defined:**

**Right Thinking:** 

Anxiety, at its core, is a SPIRITUAL problem... a divided mind and restless heart weighed down by fear or worry, instead of trusting God's care and provision

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Philippians 4:8 ESV

· I must \_\_\_\_\_ my anxious thoughts with something better

\_\_\_\_\_ about what I am \_\_\_\_\_

\_ about

Proverbs 23:7; Isaiah 26:3; 2 Corinthians 10:5

· Requires a ""	
Disciplined Thought Life	Default Thought Life
<b>TRUE</b> ( <i>Gk: Alēthē</i> ) [valid, reliable, genuine, authentic]	& [false, unreal, counterfeit]
HONORABLE/Noble (Gk: Semnos) [dignified]	[temporal, mundane, common, earthly]
<b>JUST</b> /Righteous ( <i>Gk: Dikaios</i> )	(unjust)
PURE (Gk: Hagnos) [morally clean, holy]	
<b>LOVELY</b> ( <i>Gk: Prosphilēs</i> ) [attractive, gracious]	or critical [harsh]
COMMENDABLE/Admirable (Gk: Euphēmos)	[pitiful, despicable, lousy]
Paul's Summary	
<b>EXCELLENT</b> ( <i>Gk: Aretē</i> ) [superior, high-quality]	[bare minimum, inferior, low-grade]
WORTHY OF PRAISE (Gk: Epainos)	
The Results	
and	to the culture around me







What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you. Philippians 4:9 ESV

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- The peace of God is experienced when God's truth moves from \_\_\_\_\_\_to \_\_\_\_\_to
  - **LEARNED** study God's word, instruction (MIND)
  - **RECEIVED** welcome and embrace with an open mind and soft heart (HEART)
  - **HEARD** keep listening to God's Word (EAR)
  - **SEEN** follow godly examples (EYE)
  - **PRACTICE** live it every day (\_\_\_\_\_\_ life)
- **RESULTS** experience the God of Peace, and the peace of God

### **Final Thought:**

- · Peace isn't just about removing anxious thoughts; it's about...
  - Filling my \_\_\_\_\_ with God's \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_ my life God's \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Memory Verse:**

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.

2 Corinthians 10:5 NIV84

# My next step today is to...

- o Memorize 2 Corinthians 10:5
- o Repent and accept Jesus as my Savior and submit to His Lordship for the first time!
- o Go public as a follower of Jesus and get **baptized**
- o Intentionally practice the following truth that I know \_\_\_\_\_
- o Focus on the quality of \_\_\_\_\_\_ (from verse 8) this week

Reco	mmend	ed Reso	ources:

<u>Life God's Way</u> series
<u>Faithfully Stewarding the Truth</u> message
Psalms for the Anxious

# **Reflection Questions:**

- · How does Philippians 4:8-9 connect with the rest of Philippians 4:4-6?
- · Which of the qualities in verse 8 are easiest for me to focus on? Which are hardest? Why?
- · How is meditating on God's word—filling my mind with God's truth—different from simply trying to "think positively?"
- Why is it important to both think the truth and live God's way?
- · Who in my life has modeled godly thinking and living for me the way Paul modeled it for the Philippians?
- · What truth have I learned, but not yet put into practice?
- · What kind of example am I setting for those around me (spouse, kids, coworker, etc.)?
- · When in my life has obedience to God's ways led me to experience His peace?