

COMMUNITY GROUP QUESTIONS - 10/8/17

FIRST!... TWO THINGS YOU SHOULD DO:

1. For all FW volunteers - MOTIVATE 2017 (October 21st @6pm @ FW)
2. NEXT STEPS SUNDAY (October 29th – 1 gathering @ 11am) → If you desire to participate in being baptized or dedicating your child, contact the FW office and let us know!

WARM UP: What are you thinking about RIGHT NOW?

RECAP: Last week in our series Spiritual War, we were challenged to KNOW the enemy. Satan. Week two of our series the challenge was to know that **“THE BATTLE FOR YOUR SOUL IS FOUGHT IN YOUR MIND.”** But we do see the results of the battle we fight in our world: killing, stealing, lying, gossip, sexual immorality, idolatry, and the list goes on. Even though we see the results of spiritual war in us and around us, sin starts in our brains.

1. Take a moment to discuss your thoughts from this week's sermon. What from Sunday's sermon stood out to you?

LET'S TALK ABOUT OUR BRAINS: Experts estimate that the mind thinks between 60,000 – 80,000 thoughts a day. That's an average of 2500 – 3,300 thoughts per hour. If that's true, we have to ask, what's going on up there? What are we thinking about all the time? Your group is a safe place where honesty should thrive. Take a moment to honestly discuss YOUR mind.

1. How would you describe YOUR mind?
2. How would you divide your thoughts in percentages on an average day? What percentage is God, work, sin, anxiety, family, food, positive thoughts, negative thoughts, etc.?

READ 2 Corinthians 10:3–5, *“For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses. We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up **against the knowledge of God**, and we are **taking every thought captive** to the obedience of Christ.”*

1. In what ways do you see our **“knowledge of God”** being threatened?
2. HOW do we **“take every thought captive?”**

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READ: 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.**” Notice that the challenge here is not to do these things, but to simply **THINK** about these things.

DISCUSS: As you consider the verse you just read, think about your life. Think about the kind of person you are. Think about your experiences. How you look at the world, and how you look at God. And then take a moment to write down and discuss the following questions.

What things “**RIGHT?**”

What things “**PURE?**”

What things “**LOVELY?**”

What things “**ADMIRABLE?**”

What things “**EXCELLENT?**”

What things “**PRAISEWORTHY?**”

APPLICATION: Considering that **the battle for our soul is fought in our minds**, read through the following verses and discuss which **ONE** you want to focus on this week and why? Circle it, write it down, put it in your phone, meditate on it, pray on it.

1 Peter 1:13 Therefore, **prepare your minds for action**, keep sober in spirit, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Romans 12:1-2 Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but **be transformed by the renewing of your mind.**

Mark 12:30 ‘And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with **all your mind**, and with all your strength.’ This is the first commandment.

Luke 12:29 Do not seek what you should eat or what you should drink, **nor have an anxious mind.**

Colossians 3:1-2 Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. **Set your minds on things above**, not on earthly things.

Ephesians 4:22-23 You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be **made new in the attitude of your minds;**

CLOSE IN PRAYER: As you close in prayer be encouraged to share ANYTHING you desire prayer for, as well as anything specifically relating to today’s discussion.