



Topeka Bible Church
Obstacles to Christlikeness, #2: *Bad Ideas*
Community Group Study Questions
Philippians 4:8-9 and selected passages

1. Do you think that the mind plays a role in your spiritual life? Why or why not? What does God's word have to say about the connection between our minds and our spiritual lives (*Matthew 22:37; Colossians 3:2; Romans 12:1-2*)?

2. What are things that are "true" (*John 8:32; 19:34-35; 1 Peter 5:12*)? What is the danger of believing things that are not true (*John 8:44-45*)? What does it mean to dwell on things that are true and "noble" (*1 Timothy 3:8, 11; Titus 2:2*)?

3. Do you struggle to dwell upon things that are "right" (*Luke 23:47; Ephesians 6:1*)? How can righteous thoughts help us in our spiritual lives? Who has supplied our righteousness (*2 Corinthians 5:21*)?

4. Who do you know that lives a "pure" or innocent life (*Titus 2:5; 1 Peter 3:1-2*)? What does a pure life reveal to you about the thoughts upon which that person dwells (*James 3:17*)? Do you dwell upon these "pure" things or impure things?

5. The terms for “lovely” and “admirable” appear only in *Philippians 4:8*. What might an example of “lovely” and “admirable” living look like (*1 Corinthians 13:4-6*)? What are some examples of “excellent” (*1 Peter 2:9; 2 Peter 1:3, 5*) and “praiseworthy” (*Ephesians 1:6, 12, 14; 2 Corinthians 8:18*) things?

6. Notice that right thinking (*Philippians 4:8*) is just as important as right (or obedient) living (*Philippians 4:9*). Who do you know that models a Christ-like life (*1 Corinthians 4:16; 11:1; Philippians 3:17*)? What can you learn from their examples?

7. What is the result of right thinking and obedient living (*Philippians 4:9*)? What else leads to this peace (*Philippians 4:6-7; John 14:27; Colossians 3:15*)? Where is God specifically calling you to change your attitudes and actions this week in order to follow Him faithfully and experience His peace?

Memory Verse:

“Finally, brothers, 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.”
(Philippians 4:8, NIV)