

Message Notes:

Lined area for message notes.



The Battle of the Mind

May 26, 2024

2 Corinthians 10:4-5 For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ.

1. _____ .

Romans 1:18-25

3 _____

- Strongholds — _____
• Arguments — _____
• Lofty Opinions — _____

2. _____ .

Genesis 3:15, 2 Corinthians 5:17-19

- _____
• _____

3. _____ .

2 Corinthians 4:4, Psalm 139:23-24, Lamentations 3:22-23

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Growth Group Homework

Warm-Up

1. Share about a time you bought into a lie or realized your thinking wasn't accurate.

Talk it Over

2. What in the message did you find challenging or helpful?

3. Romans 1:18-25 gives us perspective on what is going on in the world. Read the passage. What are some of the main ideas presented?

- In verse 21, the word "futile" has the idea of a bucket with holes, and "darkened" has the idea of being in a fog. When we don't live how God instructs, this is what happens to our ability to see issues and make wise decisions. What do you think about this verse?

4. Read the following and answer the questions.

Story: At work, my manager, who is also a member of my church, made a decision that made me feel like my work was insignificant. I put years into the company and with one decision I felt like it wasn't important. I started to become bitter toward my manager and avoided him at church. Thinking I wasn't appreciated, I began to do the minimum required of me. Then I read Colossians 3:23 which says, "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters", and 1 Peter 5:5-7 which says, "all of you clothe yourselves with humility toward one another." God confronted me. I confessed my laziness. I humbled myself by admitting my thinking about the situation could be inaccurate. These verses helped get me back on the path God had for me and helped me clear up the relationship with my manager.

- When have you experienced something similar to this story?
- This person concluded that being humble involved admitting their thinking might be wrong. What do you think about this?

- When was a time you had to be humble and open to being wrong?

5. 2 Corinthians 10:5 says we are "*to take every thought captive and make it obedient to Christ.*" Regularly hearing from God by prayerfully reading the Bible and practicing the heart attitude of *living an open and honest life* are practices that help us apply this verse. Which of these two practices is easiest for you? Why do you think this is?

- Which one is the most difficult? Explain.

- When was a time the Bible or a friend corrected your thinking? What was your response to that? What have some of the outcomes been?

Take It Home

6. What is one thing from this study that you can put into practice this week?