

Mind Games Episode 3
"Truthoughts: Part 1"
Rev. Richard C. Whitcomb
rev.whitcomb@revrcw.com

Romans 12:2 "Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect."

Right Thinking over Time equals lasting life change.

"If I could **SEE** as God sees, I would **DO** as God says."

You need to MIND THE TRUTH

1. THE TRUTH ABOUT LIES.

John 8:44 Jesus said, "You are of your father, the devil, and it is your will to practice the lusts and gratify the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a falsehood, he speaks what is natural to him, for he is a liar and the father of lies and of all that is false."

Genesis 3:1 "Did God really say you must not eat the fruit from any of the trees in the garden?"

Genesis 3:4 "'You won't die!' the serpent replied to the woman."

Genesis 3:6 "The woman was convinced. She saw that the tree was beautiful and its fruit looked delicious, and she wanted the wisdom it would give her."

James 1:14-15: "Each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death."

The only time a lie has power is when we believe it.

2. THE TRUTH ABOUT TRUTH

John 17:17 "Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth."

Hebrews 4:12 "God's word is living and full of power. It is more sharp than any sword that cuts on both sides. What God says cuts through and divides the mind and spirit. What God says is able to judge the things people think and plan in their hearts."

John 8:32 "And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

John 8:31 "Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, 'If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed.'"

You will avoid your greatest regret when you allow the truth of God's Word to guide your life.

3. THE TRUTH ABOUT TRUTHOUGHTS

Titus 1:15 "To the pure, all things are pure, but to those who are corrupted and do not believe, nothing is pure. In fact, both their minds and consciences are corrupted."

2 Corinthians 10:3-5 says this: "For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. 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."

Either YOU or YOUR THOUGHTS will become captive.

Romans 15:5-6 "May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the **same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had**, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Study Questions

"If I could SEE as God sees, I would DO as God says."

- What does this statement mean to you? How is it possible to "see" as God sees?
- What does the Lord see that we don't, and how does it affect his ability to guide us?

The devil is the father of lies. Read John 8:44.

- In what ways are you exposed to the devil's lies every day? What are some of the most common lies that people believe?

Sometimes the lies the devil tells us are subtle and difficult to recognize.

- According to Psalm 119:29-31, how can we walk in truth and not in deception?
- Ephesians 6:14 tells us to put on the 'belt of truth.' What does it mean to wear the belt of truth and how can you do so each day?

Pastor Whitcomb made this statement in his sermon:

"Our own SIN makes us more susceptible to lies."

- Think of a time when your pride or greed or anger allowed you to be more vulnerable to deception. How did sin make you more susceptible to a lie?

Knowing our Bible is critical to winning the battle for truth. Jesus said in John 17:17, "Your Word is truth."

- Do you have a method for reading and studying the Scriptures? If so, has it worked well for you? Has it produced life change rather than simply knowledge?
- What do you think is the key to getting the most out of the Bible?

Read 1 Peter 1:13, Colossians 3:2, and Philippians 3:18-20 and 4:8.

- What kind of mindset do these verses tell us to have?
- How might the list in Philippians 4:8 affect your thoughts?
- How can we train our minds to think pure thoughts?

Read Romans 15:5-6: "May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ."

- What type of mind did Paul pray for God to give the Christians in Rome?