

THOUGHTS

Pastor Katy Reeves

Whatever you harbor in the innermost corridors of your thought life will, sooner or later, reveal itself in the outer arena through your words or actions. Whatever is hidden will eventually be brought to light. As a spiritual being, created in the image of God, your spiritual genes hold the creative power to frame your personal world by the thoughts and words you think and speak.

Thoughts and words: These are divine tools given to us for our creative use. All you are, all you experience, and, ultimately, all you achieve can be traced back to how you have made use of these two simple, yet vastly powerful tools, your thoughts and your words.

Joshua 1:1-10

Every person that enters the Kingdom of God through covenant relationship with Jesus Christ receives these same marching orders. Egypt is a type of the world and we've been delivered from the world. Israel is a type of the Promise Land, which is God's Kingdom. Just as the Israelites had giants and enemies to drive out of their promise land, so, we too, must take back our land from the thief that is occupying the land illegally, **ONLY BE STRONG AND VERY COURAGEOUS.**

Verse 8 is the key to becoming strong and very courageous. Even though we don't wrestle with flesh and blood like Joshua did, we still have the same battle in the MIND. All Joshua had to do to ensure victory was verse 8 and we will get the same results when we do verse 8, too.

Numbers 13:26-33

Every battle is won or lost in the arena of your mind. One of the most heartbreaking stories of the Old Testament is told here. The Israelites disobeyed God by refusing to take possession of the land He had prepared for them. Why? Because they saw themselves as small and weak. They believed in their own minds that they were as grasshoppers before giants. Instead, this wrong thinking actually empowered the giants. It was fear alone that caused the Israelites to miss out on the promise of God. Only Joshua and Caleb inherited the promised land.

Why? **Joshua 1:8!**

God's instructions here are to meditate on His Word day and night so that it will fill our hearts, minds, and mouths, then--we can be strong and courageous. Do you see the connection? Until our minds and mouths only think and speak God's Word, we cannot have any hope of being strong and courageous.

Right from the outset God made it a priority to address the issue of Joshua's mind. No other instructions or strategies took precedence over what occupied Joshua's thoughts. **YOU ARE THE SUM TOTAL OF YOUR THOUGHTS!** As your deepest driving desire is, so is your will; as your will is, so are your deeds; as your deeds are, so is your destiny.

It is vital that we meditate on God's Word daily. God's Word must fill our minds before anything else. Do you see how important God's Word is?

Mark 9:23

All things are possible to those who believe. But without knowledge of the Word, you don't have the correct truths to believe. As you follow God's specific instructions and fill your thoughts with those things the Bible tells you to, you will discover that the world will begin to unfold before you with an array of possibilities and reflect back what you choose to focus upon. It is critically important to stay **CONSCIOUS** of what's going on in your mind. Random thoughts lead to random accomplishments that rarely build upon one another.

Philippians 4:8-9

True, Noble, Just, Pure, Lovely, Good reports, Virtuous, Praiseworthy. Think on these things.

2 Corinthians 10:5

Guard your mind, just as you do your heart. Knowing the Word of God intimately will help you recognize the enemy's thoughts. When a bad thought comes in, capture it and cast it out of your mind.

By filling your mind with God's Word, you are filling your mind with His thoughts. His thoughts become your thoughts. Your thoughts become your words. Your words dictate your actions. Your actions determine your character. Your character ushers you into your destiny.

YOU DETERMINE YOUR DESTINY and it begins with a thought.