

## **OUTLINE:**

**TITLE:**     **The Gospel Perspective on thinking**

**TEXT:**       Philippians 4:8

<sup>8</sup> Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

**THEME:**     **The Gospel and thinking**

**PROP.:**      **We must allow the Gospel to sharpen our thinking.**

**INTER.:**     **How does a Gospel perspective impact my thinking?**

- I.     Shift your focus     (5-7)
- II.    **Sharpen your thinking           (verse8)**
  - A.    **The Instruction           “Think.”**
  - B.    **The itemization**
    1.    **The Capstone     -     “What is true!”**
      - *True as opposed to what is false.*
      - *Ultimately true over temporally true.*
    2.    **The clarifications**

## **QUESTIONS:**

1.     What did you hear?
2.     How important is thinking?
3.     What is the connection between the Gospel and thinking? (Gen 6:5, Heb. 4:12, Eph 4:23, Rom 12:2, 2 Cor 10:5, Titus 2:11–12)

4. Do you think that Christians have a responsibility to think differently? If so, how should their thinking be different?
5. How should “thinking about what we think about” impact our thinking?
6. What does thinking “Volitionally” as opposed to “emotionally” mean?
7. Share some ways that people commonly think “emotionally?” How does this normally impact their relationships? Can you share some examples?
8. We are living in an age where we are flooded with information that “fills up” our capacity to think. This is “Jargon” – eternally worthless information. Discuss the importance of minimizing our intake of “Jargon” in order to increase our intake of Truth.
9. How important is it that we think about the “temporal” in light of the “eternal?” How should this affect our judgment when making decisions? How should this impact worldview (perspective on life)?
10. To the Capstone of truth, Paul adds the clarifications of “worthy of respect, pure, lovely, and commendable. How should these filters impact what we allow to enter our minds and become a part of the way that we think?