

Philippians 4:8-9

Good Thinking

The good ...

I. Think

A. About Excellent Things

1. General Goodness
2. Worthy of Praise
3. In Perspective

B. Of Ultimate Interest

1. Things of God
2. Good for the Soul

II. Do

A. Absorb Scripture

B. Follow Examples

C. Walk Worthy

1. By God's Grace
2. Do God's Will

... and the God of peace.

Children, Listen ...

1. What kinds of things should we fill our minds with?
2. Where do we find the most important things we need to know?
3. Who are some good Christian examples for you to follow?
4. What is it about them that makes you want to imitate them?
5. It is not enough to simply know what's right ... what else must happen?

Beyond Positive Thinking

Paul encourages his readers to contemplate excellent and praiseworthy things. Though it can often seem like gloom and doom, there are many good and worthwhile things the world has to offer that Christians can and should appreciate. But the Christian faith always takes us to a higher view of things. The things we delight in the most are the things that please the Lord. Those glorious things that He reveals to us in His creation, His Word and through His Spirit. He gives us all that we need for faith and life. But it is never enough to know the good, even the greatest most glorious things – such knowledge must impact our lives. Paul doesn't leave us just pondering positive things, he calls us to put into practice the precepts for life that we find in God's Word.