

Studying today's message I discovered a Dream dated Oct 2022- Willy Wonka visits Japan -which actually happened exactly 1 year later. Willy Wonka and the Chocolate factory is a twisted tale of a crazy CEO/chocolatier who owns a chocolate factory – desires to leave his legacy to a child with honest character. – **His character believes taking responsibility He wanted to invest in a child...**

1. Augustus Gloop is gluttony – Falls in the chocolate river
2. Violet Beauregarde is rudeness – turns into a blueberry
3. Veruca Salt is selfishness – the bad egg that falls into the incinerator
4. Mike TeeVee is pride – shrunk from the Wonka vision
5. Charlie Bucket – disqualified because of his tampering with the fizzy pop – redeemed because of his honesty with the everlasting gobstopper

All these kids represent mindsets – Who do you identify with?

Mindsets! We all have them, habits patterns, ways we think!

Our minds can be renewed, and toxic thoughts and emotions can be swept away

Once a toxic thought is broken, your thoughts can begin to improve every area of your life – your relationships, your health and even your identity.

It's crazy how a thought can seem so harmless, but if it becomes toxic, even just a thought can become physically, emotionally or spiritually dangerous.

Thoughts are real and measurable and take up mental “real estate”. Thoughts are active, they grow and change. Thoughts influence every decision, word, action and physical action we make. This means that every time we have a thought, it is actively changing your brain for better or worse.

Title: What you think – Matters! - You are the director of this story...

Memorize these verses!

Phil. 4:8 Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is ^[a]lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, ^[b]dwell on these things.

Col. 3:2 Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth.

Rom. 12:2 And do not be conformed to this ^[c]world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind

2 Co. 10:5 We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ,

Today's emphasis is taken from Mt. 18:12-14 READ

Why does Jesus care about what you think?

I. Jesus was an extraordinary thinker – revolutionizing religion-how we relate to God, culture- how we relate to each other, Identity- how we live meaningful lives

1. Jesus was radical in His approach to practical life –

Jn 13:34 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another.

2. Like Willy Wonka – I believe in Mt. 18 Jesus gave us “5 keystone concepts” will effect every area of our lives if embraced and engaged as key principles for wise living.

- a. Think about others
- b. Think about toxic mindsets/behaviors
- c. Think about Fathers love toward you
- d. Think about conflict /resolution
- e. Think about forgiveness

II. Think about others – Disciples came revealing # 1 Keystone mindset

Mt 18:1-6

1. Who is the greatest in the Kingdom – Pecking order mindset – EGGDicator – BAD EGG

- a. I need to determine who I have to deal with to succeed

Illustration- New kid at Richmond street middle School – “I Choose you off”

2. Jesus flips the script – changes the narrative –

3. Unless you are converted and become like a child you cant receive the Kingdom...

- a. Change our thinking, humble yourself and learn to add value to others
- b. Learn to radically love one another –

Mt. 5 Sermon on the mount – These were radical thoughts – still are!!

You have heard that it was said, ‘AN EYE FOR AN EYE, AND A TOOTH FOR A TOOTH.’ ³⁹ But I say to you, do not resist an evil person; but whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also. ⁴⁰ If anyone wants to sue you and take your ^[am]shirt, let him have your ^[an]coat also. ⁴¹ Whoever ^[ad]forces you to go one mile, go with him two. ⁴² Give to him who asks of you, and do not turn away from him who wants to borrow from you.

⁴³ “You have heard that it was said, ‘YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR and hate your enemy.’ ⁴⁴ But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵ so that you may ^[ad]be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for He causes His sun to rise on *the* evil and *the* good, and sends rain on *the* righteous and *the* unrighteous. ⁴⁶ For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? ⁴⁷ If you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing *than others*? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? ⁴⁸ Therefore ^[ad]you are to be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

4. We can effect so much in our lives by simply changing the way we think about key areas- in relationships.

c. Sometimes its just not that easy – OUR Struggle!!!

Eph 6:12 **For our struggle** is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual *forces* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.

5. Jude 1:3-4 Tells us to contend for the faith

- a. Fight for others**
- b. Fight for truth that protects others**
- c. Fight against anything that tries to enslave you**

6. What and who are you contending for?

III. Baby Dedication