

# SOME THINGS TO THINK ABOUT WHEN YOU WANT TO THINK LIKE GOD

“Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. “

~ *Philippians 4:8*

## 1. **Phil 4:8**

- a. Better than learning how-to-do is first learning how-to-think
- b. Where your mind goes, so goes your walk in the Lord
- c. We are to have the mind of Christ – 1 Cor 2:16, Phil 1:27, 2:5, 3:15-16, 4:2
- d. Phil 4:8 is not Peter Pan theology, or the power of positive thinking (word-faith)
2. **True** – Genuine, real, conformable to fact... not a lie.
  - a. This is different than your opinion; these are the absolute facts.
  - b. The truth is uncompromising fact and offensive - 1 Tim 4:3, Gal 2:14
  - c. The word of God is truth, because God spoke it – John 14:5-6, 17:17
  - d. It was true whether they believed it or not – 1 Thess 2:13, Eph 1:13
  - e. Facts only exist because God is, and he has spoken to us in the Bible.
3. **Honest** – Upright, sincere, truthful. Not fraudulent or deceptive.
  - a. Honesty refers to doing what you know is true, not hiding it - 2 Cor 4:2
  - b. We are to walk honestly towards others - 2 Cor 8:21, 2 Cor 13:7, 1 Thess 4:11-12
  - c. Business requires honesty; without which are cheats, liars, and thieves.
4. **Just** – Things that are right.
  - a. Justice requires a standard, the law of God, and the law of faith Mic 6:8, Rom 3:27
  - b. Justice has been distorted today to be equal outcome or a means of protection
5. **Pure** – Things unmixed something foreign; clear; clean.
  - a. Purity in heart requires we know right doctrine - 1 Tim 1:3-5
  - b. Purity requires discernment and the ability to separate - Eph 5:7, Rom 16:17
6. **Lovely** – Things worthy of love
  - a. The beloved is Christ, the truth is lovely – Eph 1:6, Rom 5:8
  - b. We need to think on the lovely when we make a stand against the evil things
  - c. Bible believers are optimists – 1 Cor 13:6, Eph 4:15
7. **Good Report**
  - a. A good report is a testimony to faithfulness – 1 Tim 3:7, 2 Tim 2:2
  - b. Good reports of Paul's faithful men - 1 Cor 16:17-18, Phil 2:29-30, Col 4:7-9
8. **Virtue** – Strength, goodness, excellence, integrity
  - a. The opposite of virtue would be weakness, shame, fragile, cowardly, dishonor
  - b. All of these virtues come from Christ in us – Col 2:3, Phil 4:13
9. **Praise** – Commendation for merit, to honor
  - a. What is praiseworthy in us is of God – Eph 1:16, 12
  - b. Consider how Christ is working in you, and in others, and praise the good.