

# *Stepping Into Greatness*

**Last Week: *Seeking Great Friends & Mentors***

**Come and  
be treated  
like *Family***

**We want to  
*Love* God with  
all our heart,  
soul & mind.  
(Mat 22:37)**



**And our *Neighbor* as ourselves (Mat 22:37).**

# Stepping Into Greatness

This Week: **Thinking Great Thoughts**

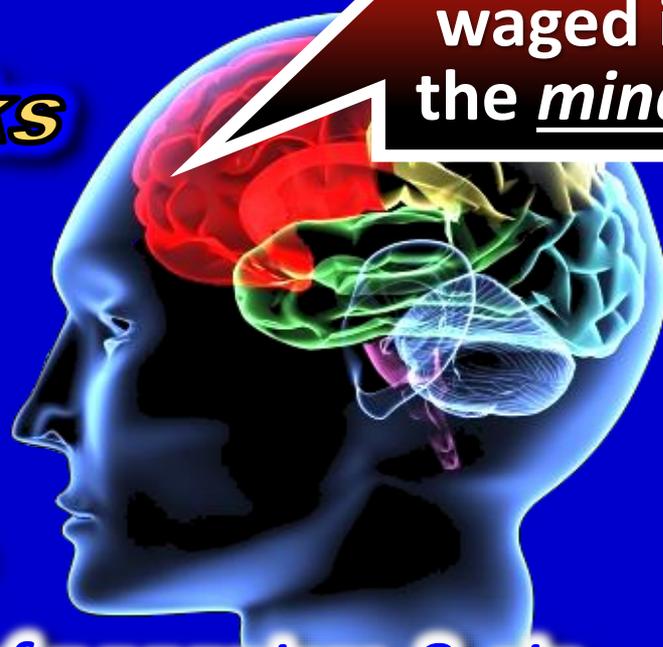
“Be **Transformed** by the **Renewing** of Your **Mind**” (Rom 12:2)

The Battle for the soul is waged in the mind !

Prov 23:7 “What he **thinks** is what he really is.” GNT

2 Cor 10:5 “We are taking every **thought** captive to the obedience of Christ.”

*Figure of military conquest of paganism & sin.*



*Prov 4:23 Guard your **heart** with all diligence—for from it flow the springs of life.*



**Old Saying: “You can’t keep birds from flying  
over your head—But You don’t have to let them  
*Make a nest in your hair.*”**



# **Transformed by Thinking Great Thoughts**

**Finally brethren, *Whatever* is: (Phil 4:8)**

**True** [Alethes] **Real, honest, factual, not fanciful**

**Noble** [Semnos] **Honorable, majestic, splendid**

**Right** [Dikaios] **Ethical re Divine & Human laws**

**Pure** [Hagnos] **Not contaminated, Holy, Godly**

**Lovely** [Prosphiles] **Whatever causes pleasantness**

**Admirable** [Euphemos] **Things spoken in good-will**

**Excellent** [Arete] **Virtuous thought, feeling, action**

**Praiseworthy** [Epainos] **Worthy of applause**

**Think about such things.** [Logizomai—pres, mid]

**v9 And the God of *peace* will be with you. NIV**



***HOW*** can we think  
***Great thoughts?***

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**Think Great Thoughts About *GOD***

**Zeph 3:17 “The Lord your God is in your midst,  
*He will rejoice over you* with shouts of joy.”**

**Rom 8:28 All works for good**

**Isa 40:31 Run, not tired**

**Jer 29:11 Plans for you**

**Ps 23:4 I fear no evil**

**1 Jn 1:9 Cleanse us..**

**Ps 103:14 We are dust**



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**Think Great Thoughts About *OTHERS***

1 Cor 12:25 “Members should have the *same care for one another*..

v.26 And if one member suffers, *all the members suffer with it.*”

1 Sam 16:7 “Do not *look*

at his appearance or at the height of his stature..”

*Mat 20:26 Wishes to be great, shall be your servant*

***Inspired by “Sister Bea” of Jamaica !***



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**Think Great Thoughts About Our *PAST***

Just because the *past* didn't turn out like you wanted it to, doesn't mean your *future* can't be better than you ever imagined.

Phil 3:13 *Forgetting what lies behind* and reaching forward to what lies ahead,  
v14 *I press on toward the goal...*

People get stuck in the *sins* of their past, or stagnate with *victories* of yesteryear.

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**Think Great Thoughts About *Today***

**Ps 118:22** *“Stone builders rejected”* True of both David and Christ (Mat 21:42; Acts 4:11; Eph 2:20)  
**Coffman:** Written on David’s coming to the throne.

**Ps 118:24** “This is the day which the Lord has made; *Let us rejoice and be glad in it.*

**v25** O Lord, do save, we beseech Thee; O Lord, we beseech Thee, *do send prosperity!*

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**Think Great Thoughts About Our *Struggles***

2 Cor 4:17 “*For momentary, light affliction* is producing for us an eternal ***weight of glory*** far beyond all comparison.” (2 Cor 11:24-26)

James 1:2 “*Consider it all joy*, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, 3 knowing that the testing of your faith ***produces endurance.***”

# *Stepping Into Greatness*

**Think Great Thoughts About God's Church**

Made up of **Imperfect** People (Jas 3:2)

We have an **Awesome opportunity** (Rev 3:8)

Every church has areas of **Commendation**  
and areas of **growth** (Rev 2:2-4; 3:2-4)

So **FOCUS** on **Positives** & **IMPROVE** negatives

(Eph 1:18) Eyes of your heart be enlightened

know **riches of the Glory of His**

**inheritance** in the **SAINTS** !

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We are called to be candle **lighters** (Mat 5:14)

To deal with  
Negativity:

#1 Let Our **Thoughts** be  
**God's thoughts** (Col 3:16)

#2 **Meditate** on **God's Promises** (Phil 4:8)

#3 Take **Responsibility** to be **Positive** (Prov 4:23)

Each Step we take is a Step of **FAITH** (2 Cor 5:7)

Purer in Heart O God, help **Me to Be** (Prov 23:4)

