The Battle for the Mind (1)

It's all in your mind...

Our theme this year is "Rise and build." A subtheme for the second quarter is, "Having a mind to build." That thought comes from Nehemiah—as Nehemiah saw the walls in ruin and that the city was left often for attack and was defenseless, he wanted to lead the people in restoring the walls. The work was too much for



one person. And, all the plans, the pleas, the reasons why, the benefits would have been empty words had the people not had a mind to work. The first thing Nehemiah had to build was having the mind to want to build. Without that, the people would have walked away and gone on with their lives.

And, for us, this is the necessary place to begin. All of our plans, efforts, dreams, goals, will be empty words if we do not have the mind to build. So, we entitle this class, "The battle for the mind." This is where it all begins.

A. Our minds are the core processor of all that we are

2 Corinthians 10:5 "We are destroying arguments and all arrogance raised against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ."

Proverbs 4:23 "Watch over your heart with all diligence, for from it flow the springs of life."

Proverbs 23:7 "For as a man thinks within himself, so he is..."

Mark 7:21 "For from within, out of the hearts of people, come the evil thoughts, acts of sexual immorality, thefts, murders, acts of adultery."

Matthew 22:37 "And He said to him, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind."

Proverbs 12:5 "The thoughts of the righteous are just..."

Hebrews 4:12 "For the word of God is living and active, and sharper than any two-edged sword, even penetrating as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge th thoughts and intentions of the heart. "

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

1 Corinthians 3:1 "And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ."

Jude 19 "These are the ones who cause division, worldly-minded, devoid of the Spirit."

Philippians 25 "Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus."

Underline the words about the mind

Behavior, attitudes, motives, cooperation, submission, selfesteem, cheerfulness, joy, peace, confidence, kindness, forgiveness, assurance, motivation, focused, will, discernment, maturity, trust, faith, spiritual, hope, goals, ambition, plans all come from our minds.

- 1. Sometimes the Bible makes a distinction between the mind and the heart. What's the difference?
- For instance, "loving God with all your heart, soul and mind" - what does that look like?
- 2. Why is there a "Battle for the mind?"
- 3. What is the challenge for the child of God in the area of his mind?

- 4. Daniel 1:8 tells us that Daniel "made up his mind that he would not defile himself with the king's choice foods." What is the processes that one goes through to make us his mind?
- 5. Our hymn, "Did you think to pray," tells us what about our minds?

List Some Thoughts that a Christian should not have:

1. 2. 3.

4.

5. 6.

7. 8.

9. 10.

11.

12. 13.

14. 15.

16. 17.

18. 19.

20.

21. 22.

23. 24.

25.

What causes us to think one way or the other?

List Some Positive Thoughts that a Christian should have:

1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24.

25.

