

Values Matter Discovery Starters

We Want to Know God

9. HAVE A BIBLICAL CHRISTIAN WORLDVIEW

YWAM is called to a Biblical Christian worldview. We believe that the Bible – the textbook for all of life – makes a clear division between good and evil; right and wrong. The practical dimensions of life are no less spiritual than the ministry expressions. Everything done in obedience to God is spiritual. We seek to honor God with all that we do, equipping and mobilizing men and women of God to take roles of service and influence in every arena of society.

[Deu 8:1-3](#); [Deu 32:45-47](#); [2Ki 22:8](#); [Psa 19:7-11](#); [Luk 8:21](#);
[Joh 8:31-32](#); [Php 4:8-9](#); [2Ti 3:16 17](#); [Heb 4:12-13](#); [Jam 4:17](#)

Value #9 – Have a Biblical Christian Worldview: Think and Act!

Biblical Foundation:

And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise. Keep putting into practice all you learned and received from me—everything you heard from me and saw me doing. Then the God of peace will be with you (Php 4:8-9).

Discovery Starter:

As Paul gets ready to draw this lovely “thank you letter” to a close he has two final commands (excluding the charge to greet one another in 4:21): to think and to act. Paul introduces this dual command as “one final thing” – because they are two sides of the same coin. Let’s take a look.

Paul urges his hearers to think about eight things, about whatever is:

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| 1. true | 5. lovely |
| 2. honorable | 6. admirable |
| 3. right | 7. excellent |
| 4. pure | 8. worthy of praise |

What an amazing list! The Greek verb is *logizomai* (Strong's #3049) and it is used as an imperative five times in the New Testament. Apart from this passage in Philippians you can find it in Rom 6:11; 1Co 4:1; and 2Co 10:7,11 (take a look; discover more!). Paul's point is that we are not to give this list a quick once over. We are to reflect on it very deliberately in order that we might give ourselves to these good things. When we truly value these things, we will no longer see them merely as an external standard which we strive to attain. They become an internal delight that we gladly embrace because we consider them to be both desirable and beneficial.

Paul doesn't stop with the "think about" command, because Biblical truth is actionable. It should make a difference in our lives. We should conform our actions to align with God's revelation. The goal of discipleship is truth understood and applied. Revealed truth must reshape the habits of our lives. So Paul's next imperative is *prasso* (Strong's #4238): "Keep putting into practice all you learned" Paul used this same word earlier, when he was testifying before Herod Agrippa. Paul begins his defense saying, "I preached first to those in Damascus, then in Jerusalem and throughout all Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that all must repent of their sins and turn to God—and prove they have changed by the good things they do" (Act 26:20). When we repent and follow Jesus, we do not only think about good things; we do them! This is the transformative power of the gospel in action.

Keep Going:

So, here's a gift that will help you think and act as Paul exhorted: it is a list of all the occurrences in the New Testament of the eight words that we are to "think about" and "put into practice." There's plenty here for you to keep discovering more of what God wants to teach you. So, get started and may you lean into Holy Spirit as you seek to make these things your default way of thinking and doing life:

- "whatever is **true**" – *alethes* (#227) occurs 25 times: Mat 22:16; Mar 12:14; Joh 3:33; 4:18; 5:31,32; 7:18; 8:13,14,16,17,26; 10:41; 19:35; 21:24; Act 12:9; Rom 3:4; 2Co 6:8; Php 4:8; Tit 1:13; 1Pe 5:12; 2Pe 2:22; 1Jo 2:8,27; 3Jo 1:12.
- "whatever is **noble**" – *semnos* (#4586) occurs 4 times: Php 4:8; 1Ti 3:8,11; Tit 2:2.
- "whatever is **right**" – *dikaios* (#1342) occurs 81 times: Mat 1:19; 5:45; 9:13; 10:41a,41b,41c; 13:17,43,49; 20:4,7; 23:28,29,35a,35b; 25:37,46; 27:19,24; Mar 2:17; 6:20; Luk 1:6,17; 2:25; 5:32; 12:57; 14:14; 15:7; 18:9; 20:20; 23:47,50; Joh 5:30; 7:24; 17:25; Act 3:14; 4:19; 7:52; 10:22; 22:14; 24:15; Rom 1:17; 2:13; 3:10,26; 5:7,19; 7:12; Gal 3:11; Eph 6:1; Php 1:7; 4:8; Col 4:1; 2Th 1:5,6; 1Ti 1:9; 2Ti 4:8; Tit 1:8; Heb 10:38; 11:4; 12:23; Jam 5:6,16 1Pe 3:12,18; 4:18; 2Pe 1:13; 2:7,8a,8b; 1Jo 1:9; 2:1,29; 3:7a,7b,12; Rev 15:3; 16:5,7; 19:2; 22:11.
- "whatever is **pure**" – *hagnos* (#53) occurs 8 times: 2Co 7:11; 11:2; Php 4:8; 1Ti 5:22; Tit 2:5; Jam 3:17; 1Pe 3:2; 1Jo 3:3.
- "whatever is **lovely**" – *prospiles* (#4375) occurs only one time, here in Php 4:8.

- "whatever is **admirable**" – *euphemos* (#2163) occurs only one time, here in Php 4:8.
- "if anything is **excellent**" – *arete* (#703) occurs 5 times: Php 4:8; 1Pe 2:9; 2Pe 1:3,5a,5b.
- "or **praiseworthy**" – *epainos* (#1868) occurs 11 times: Rom 2:29; 13:3; 1Co 4:5; 2Co 8:18; Eph 1:6,12,14; Php 1:11; 4:8; 1Pe 1:7; 2:14.

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