

# THE “CHRISTIAN THOUGHT LIFE”

Philippians 4:8  
Pastor John Chan  
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“The ideas and images in men’ s minds are the invisible powers that constantly govern them”

Johnathan Edwards

<sup>20</sup> He went on: “What comes out of a person is what defiles them. <sup>21</sup> For it is from within, out of a person’ s heart, that evil thoughts come—sexual immorality, theft, murder, <sup>22</sup> adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. <sup>23</sup> All these evils come from inside and defile a person.” (Mark 7:20-23)

MIND



WORDS AND ACTIONS

(Thoughts)

**“CHRISTIAN THOUGHT LIFE”  
FOCUSES ON SCRIPTURAL TRUTHS.**

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**“POSITIVE THINKING LIFE”  
BASES ON POSITIVE ATTITUDE AND THE  
SCIENCE OF MIND.**

# **“THE CHRISTIAN THOUGHT LIFE”**

## **SCRIPTURAL VALUES AND PRINCIPLES**

(Adapted : ‘Christian Bible Reference’)

- **Love God and your neighbor** (Matthew 22:37).
- **Worship and serve God only** (Luke 4:8).
- **Be humble** (Matthew 5:5; James 4:6).
- **Be honest** (Galatians 6:7-8).
- **Live a moral life** (1Corinthians 6:10-20).
- **Be generous with time and money** (Proverbs 14:21).
- **Do not be self-righteous** (Matthew 7:1-5).
- **Be forgiving** (Matthew 6:14-15).

# “THE POSITIVE THINKING LIFE”

## BENEFITS OF POSITIVE THINKING

(Adapted from : ‘Always Greater’)

- **Greater confidence** ( believing in one’s ability).
- **Higher self-esteem** ( believing in one’s self worth).
- **Peace of mind** ( thinking positive enhances peace).
- **More success** ( from self-esteem and confidence).
- **More energy** ( motivates and energizes oneself).
- **Better health** ( thinking positive reduces stress).
- **Happiness and enjoyment** ( promotes good life).

# HERESIES OF **POSITIVE THINKING** IN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE.

- **Positive Confession (Health and Wealth).**
- **Name It and Claim It Teaching.**
- **Positive Mental Attitude Teaching.**
- **Positive Self-Talk Teaching.**

SCRIPTURAL TEXT

## Philippians 4:8

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is **true**, whatever is **noble**, whatever is **right**, whatever is **pure**, whatever is **lovely**, whatever is **admirable**—if anything is **excellent** or **praiseworthy**—think about such things.

**“CHRISTIAN THOUGHT LIFE”**

**WHATEVER IS ‘TRUE’**

**John 3:33**

**“Whoever has accepted it has certified that**

**God is truthful.”**



**“CHRISTIAN THOUGHT LIFE”**

**WHATEVER IS ‘NOBLE’**

**1Timothy 3:4**

“He must be one who manages his own household well, keeping his children under control **with all dignity.**”

**“CHRISTIAN THOUGHT LIFE”**

**WHATEVER IS ‘RIGHT’**

**1John 3:7**

**“Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray.  
The one who does what is **right is righteous,**  
just as **he is righteous.**”**

**“CHRISTIAN THOUGHT LIFE”**  
**WHATEVER IS ‘PURE’**

**1 Timothy 5:22**

“Do not be hasty in the laying on of hands,  
and do not share in the sins of others.

*Keep yourself pure.”*

**“CHRISTIAN THOUGHT LIFE”**

**WHATEVER IS ‘LOVELY’**

**Ecclesiastes 3:11**

**“He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end.”**

# “CHRISTIAN THOUGHT LIFE” WHATEVER IS ‘ADMIRABLE’

## 1Corinthians 13:4-8

<sup>4</sup> Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.<sup>5</sup> It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.<sup>6</sup> Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.<sup>7</sup> It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.  
<sup>8</sup> Love never fails.

**“CHRISTIAN THOUGHT LIFE”**  
**WHATEVER IS ‘EXCELLENT’ OR**  
**‘PRAISEWORTHY’**

**Psalm 103:1-2**

“Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within  
me, **bless his holy name!**

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and **forget not**  
**all his benefits”**

**..... think about such things.**

**HOW CAN CHRISTIANS STAY FOCUSED  
ON CHRISTIAN THOUGHT AND  
NOT POSITIVE THINKING?**



# MEDITATING ON GOD'S WORD

Adapted : 'Unlocking the Bible'

➤ **Meditating to Focus** (Psalm 119:15).

“I meditate on your precepts and consider your ways.”

➤ **Meditating to Understand** (Psalm 119:27).

“Make me understand the way of your precepts, and I will meditate on your wondrous works.”

➤ **Meditating to Remember** (Psalm 143:5).

“I remember the days of long ago; I meditate on all your works and consider what your hands have done.”

➤ **Meditating to Worship** (Psalm 1:1-2).

“Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the LORD, and who meditates on his law day and night.”

➤ **Meditating to Apply** (Joshua 1:8).

“Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.”

# SEEKING GOD IN PRAYER

Adapted : 'Desiring God'

- **HUMILITY IS ESSENTIAL** (Psalm 10:4).  
“In his pride the wicked does not seek him; in all his thoughts there is no room for God.”
- **A CONSCIOUS CHOICE** (2Thessalonians 3:5).  
“May the Lord direct your hearts into God’s love and Christ’s perseverance.”
- **CONTINUAL SEEKING** (1Chronicles 22:19).  
“Now devote your heart and soul to seeking the LORD your God.”

# DEPENDENCE ON GOD

- **We depend on God for everything** (Psalm 104:27).  
“All creatures look to you to give them their food at the proper time.”
- **Depending on God is trusting him** (Proverbs 3:5–6).  
“Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.”