

The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. 2 Corinthians 10:4-5 (NIV)

Thoughts Have Power

Your thoughts have power. Your entire life will be guided by the thoughts you allow yourself to think. There is nothing you have done, are doing or will do that you haven't thought about first. You will become who you are based on the thoughts of your mind. It is vitally important that you think very carefully about what you allow yourself to think. You must take control of what you allow yourself to think. That sounds very difficult, maybe even impossible. How can I ever take control of my thoughts? I can't simply tell myself that I am no longer going to think certain thoughts anymore. I've tried that. In my effort to stop thinking certain thoughts I have only thought about them more. My efforts have left me worse off. **You can control what you think. This may seem impossible to you. With me all things are possible. Would you like my help?** Yes, I want your help.

Your mind is like a battleground. Every day your mind is being bombarded with principles, patterns, and practices that come from the world. The world is seeking to conform you into its image. If you do nothing at all your heart and mind and life will be entirely conformed to the world. You will be ensnared in its evil. You will think worldly thoughts. You will live a worldly life. The world and all that is in it is under the power and control of the devil and all his evil. The world is filled with his evil strongholds, false arguments and proud pretensions. You will want no part of any of these. No, I do not. I want to think your thoughts. I want to walk in your ways. **That is very good.**

You have powerful weapons at your disposal. You have a powerful tool that will help you to think my thoughts and walk in my ways. My word is that powerful tool. If you let my word dwell in you richly your heart will be changed. If you meditate on my word day and night your mind will be transformed. My word will push worldly thoughts out of your heart and mind and life. As you feast on my word you will be changed. My Holy Spirit will take my word and fight in you, with you and for you as you take a stand against evil in the world. My word will tear down evil strongholds, false arguments and proud pretensions that have had power over your life. If you remain in my word you will be able to live the life that I have called you to live. You will bear fruit for my kingdom and bring glory to my name. Is this what you want? Yes Lord, I want to live the life that you have called me to live. I will let your word dwell in me richly. I will meditate on your word day and night. I will feast on your word. I will let your word remain in me. **Then you will be able to take every one of your thoughts and make them captive to me. My thoughts will become your thoughts. My will, will become your will. My ways will become your ways.** That is exactly what I want.

Lord, thank you for giving me powerful weapons that set me free to live my life for you. Demolish any arguments, pretensions, and strongholds that attempt to set themselves up over my life. Help me take every one of my thoughts captive to you. Amen

Take Every Thought Captive

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

The Mind – 2 Corinthians 10:4-5

In Context: *Read 2 Corinthians 10*

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God's Word: ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

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Considering The Words: ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

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Praying The Scripture: ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

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What It Means: ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

What worldly arguments and pretensions try to set themselves up against God?

How are you being very careful about what you allow your mind to think?

What divine weapons has the Lord given you with which to demolish strongholds of evil?

How has God's word changed your thinking and brought it into alignment with His will and ways?

What battles have you fought with strongholds of ungodly thinking in your own mind?

How has God's power demolished strongholds of ungodly thinking in your own mind?

How has God used His word to help you to take all your thoughts and make them obedient to Christ?

Living It Out: ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Allow yourself to be armed with divine weapons provided by God so you can demolish strongholds of evil.

Seeing It Happen: ***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that God's power will allow you to demolish arguments, pretensions and strongholds of evil over your life.

Get Ready To Share: ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how the Lord has broken up strongholds of evil over your life.

Close With Prayer:

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you allow God's word to help you take every thought and make it obedient to Christ.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Lord, use your word to help me to take every thought and make it obedient to you.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, what thoughts of mine need to be taken captive and made obedient to you?
