

Elevated Thinking

- ❖ Before we can elevate our thinking, we must understand our thinking and those things that can affect it
 - Fear
 - Failures
 - Frustrations
 - Focus
 - Exposure

- ❖ Negative thinking traps
 - #1 Settling for mediocrity – Rom. 12:2
 - What does God say about everything we do? Col. 3:17; Rev. 3:16; Phil. 4:13
 - #2 Excuses
 - They are the fuel of mediocrity
 - Misery mindset – Jos. 1:8
 - I'm not as bad as others – Luke 18:10-12
 - I've got a past – 1 John 1:9; 2 Cor. 5:17
 - #3 Who has your ear
 - The Jonadab's in your life – 2 Sam. 13:1-12
 - The Eliphaz's in your life – Job 4:3-4, 7-8
 - We need more
 - Mordecai's – Esther 4:11-14
 - Caleb's – Num. 13:27-33
 - #4 Finding your worth from how
 - Others see you – Num. 13:33; John 1:46

- #5 Natural elevation
 - Being elevated in the natural is not the best indication of the level of your thinking concerning the Kingdom of God
 - Signs that we are falling into this trap:
 - Equating someone's condition with sin – John 9:1-3
 - Equating wealth with worthiness – Mat. 10:38; Deut. 8:18; Mark 8:36
 - ◆ Your wealth may simply be the result of your diligence – Pro. 21:5
 - Equating family status with Kingdom status –
 - ◆ Salvation is personal – Acts 16:30-32 (AMP); Mat. 10:34-36; Acts 11:14, 10:33, 11:15-18
 - The lessons from the church at Sardis

- #6 Having a “savior” complex instead of depending upon The Savior – Isa. 43:11; Psa. 115:1; Eph. 6:7
 - We are but instruments in the Hand of God – Acts 9:15(KJV & NIV)
 - What was the command? Mat. 28:18-20
 - What is the warning? Mat. 23:13
 - Having this complex points to a lack of humility – Micah 6:9; Rom. 12:3
 - Personal goals can get in the way of Kingdom work – Phil. 2:3-4
 - It can lead to depression when you can't fix it, fix them, or change the situation –
 - It is unhealthy and can lead to bitterness which can cause us to miss God – Num. 20:8-11 (Also look at Exo. 17:6, 1 Cor. 10:1-4)
 - Instead of trying to be a savior, recognize your need for The Savior – Mat. 7:1-5
 - God gives the increase – 1 Cor. 3:3-11

- #7 Hatred – 1 John 4:20; 1 John 2:9; Mat. 5:44; Mat. 6:15; Pro. 20:22; Eph. 4:31-32
 - What should we hate? Psa. 119:163; Psa. 97:10

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- ❖ The Power of Positive thinking
 - #1 The power of positive confessions – Phil. 4:4-9; Pro. 18:21
 - #2 Choosing to succeed instead of expecting to fail – John 10:10
 - #3 Choosing to live instead of waiting to die – Deut. 30:11-20(KJV & MSG)
 - #4 Choosing to try – Pro. 24:16; Psa. 37:23-24
 - #5 Choosing to honor – Pro. 3:9; Heb. 13:4; 1 Tim. 5:17-18; Eph. 6:2; Eph. 5:33
 - #6 Choose humility – Pro. 22:4
 - #7 Giving God something to exceed – Eph. 3:20

- ❖ Elevated thinkers elevate their standards
 - Relational matters – Pro. 19:14; 2 Tim. 2:21
 - Financial matters – Pro 13:11
 - Family matters – Deut. 6; Joshua 24:15
 - Business matters – Pro. 11:1 (KJV & MSG)
 - Social matters – Pro. 13:20
 - Service matters – Rom. 12:11
 - Spiritual matters – Rom. 8:5-6 (NIV)

- ❖ Elevated thinkers are more concerned about their presentation before God than man.
 - I don't perform faith, I walk by faith – 1 Cor. 5:6-7
 - I daily present myself sacrificially to God – Rom. 12:1