DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Week 3



Culture says "whatever" as a way of meaning nothing matters, but Christians say "whatever" because everything matters. Disciples of Jesus do not divide life into sacred and secular. Following Jesus is a 24/7 commitment, and this series explores what that looks like.

These questions are designed to extend the impact of the weekend message. Use them to go deeper in your personal study time, with your family and/or with a group.

1 The first two messages in this series focused on whatever you do and whatever you say. As you reflect on those messages what has been your biggest takeaway? How have you applied what you've learned so far?

2 THINK ABOUT WHATEVER YOU THINK

ABOUT. Have you ever put yourself in an uncomfortable situation because you weren't thinking about what you should have been thinking about? Explain. Read Proverbs 4:23. What's so significant about the truth this verse reminds us of? How does it relate to Jesus' invitation to follow him always beginning with the word "Repent!" (which means to "change your mind")?

3 THOUGHTS ON THOUGHTS... Am I thinking like a new person? The gospel does not just redeem our past: it renews us in the present so we can have a different kind of future. Read Ephesians 4:17-23. How do our old ways of thinking keep many of us from new ways of living? Follow up questions: Look back at verse 23, "Let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes." What's so encouraging about that verse? How has the Spirit renewed your thoughts and attitudes recently?

4 THOUGHTS ON THOUGHTS... Are these thoughts bringing me freedom and peace? The mind is the key, and hell is always ready to fight for it (Satan travels at the speed of thought). Read 2 Corinthians 10:5. What does it look like practically for you to "take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ"? How can you protect your mind from unwanted thoughts (see Philippians **4:4-7**) and how can that change your perspective as you go through various trials in life?

5 THOUGHTS ON THOUGHTS... Is this how Jesus would think? We cannot follow in the way of Jesus if we do not learn to follow his way of thinking. Read Philippians 2:5. How is having the "mind of Christ" different than simply filling your brain with a lot of Bible knowledge? How does thinking like Jesus impact your whole life (aet specific)?

6 WE CAN THINK ABOUT WHATEVER WE

WANT TO THINK ABOUT. Though Satan is a master of deceit, he is not the master of your mind. You can change your mind, because you can choose your "whatever." Read Philippians 4:8. How challenging is it for you to put this verse into practice? What is one thing you can work on this week to take responsibility for your thoughts?

Final thoughts: Reflect on these words from Rick as you go through your week, "We must stop letting old ways of thinking rob us of new ways of living. We must think into the freedom Jesus has purchased for us. So, think about his forgiveness whatever you've done. Think about his nearness whatever you're going through. Think about his promises whatever lies ahead. And let his underserved grace saturate whatever you think." Spend some time in prayer.

RICK ATCHLEY

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