

What's on Your Mind

by Jim Cymbala

Jim Cymbala's sermon teaches that controlling our thoughts through prayer and thanksgiving is essential for maintaining peace and joy in our lives.

Duration: 39:03

Scripture: Philippians 4:6

Topics: "Peace"

Description

In this sermon, the preacher emphasizes the importance of keeping a peaceful mind. He acknowledges that it is impossible to have nothing on our minds and that Satan will try to infiltrate our thoughts. However, he encourages the audience to call on the Lord for help and protection against the enemy's strategies. By focusing on thoughts that are praiseworthy, pure, and good, the preacher believes that our peace and joy will increase. He concludes by offering to pray with the audience for a transformation in their thought patterns based on the truth found in God's word.

Transcript

So in a number of minutes here, I wanna pray a prayer with you and for you and for me based on a truth which I wanna bring to you from God's word. If the Lord helps me to speak it and you to hear it, absolutely change your life. No, no, I don't mean just like help you transform your life.

Of all the things that I've observed, let's say I didn't see it because I was a victim of it myself before I went in the ministry and since I've been in the ministry, I've been victimized by it, not understanding it. Began to understand it years ago, but now the more I counsel with people, the more I observe people, the more I talk to choir members, the more I counsel people who have problems, the more I deal with people who have mood swings, the more I try to help everyone I can in the name of the Lord, I see that, oh my goodness, oh my goodness, you can know the Lord, be born again, have a new heart, a new spirit, and be totally on a treadmill in so many ways, moving but going nowhere because we don't understand and accept this truth and see its value and attend to it on not just a daily, I would almost say hourly basis. In the fourth chapter of the book of Philippians where I happen to teach this past Thursday, Paul is writing about sundry matters and he touches on one of the ways that you can get rid of anxiety and he's talking about worry and the danger of worry and the cure for worry, which is not what I want to talk about, but I want to give you context.

So he says, one of my favorite passages in all the Bible, he says in Philippians 4, 6, now don't worry about anything, it's in the strong double negative so it could be read literally like this. Don't worry about anything, not even a single thing. So it shows that worry is the opposite of faith, faith pleases God, worry hurts his heart because he doesn't want his children living in worry and he then gives the cure for worry, don't be anxious about anything, very strong in the original Greek language.

Not even about a single thing, how many Christians do you know that are worry-free? Very few, but in everything, by prayer and petitions or supplication, prayer being a general word, supplications being this specific need, with thanksgiving so that while you're praying, with prayer, with supplication, tell God what you need, one translation has tell him exactly what you need, but mingle in thanksgiving because that'll help build your faith, it'll keep your prayers warm and not depressing, you have to have thanksgiving in prayer. You ever hear someone pray, it's just all need, need, need? It's so depressing, you just can't wait for the prayer to end because there's no mingling of thanksgiving and praise. So in everything you approach God with, you have to mingle praise for past blessings and that helps your faith because if you remember what he's done in the past, it'll help you believe him now for your present needs.

In everything, by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, make your needs known to God, tell him what you need, and then he says, as the payoff, and the peace of God, which transcends all thought, literally, in the Greek, passes all understanding, it's beyond human thinking, it has nothing to do with your makeup or my makeup, it's called the peace of God, God's peace, supernatural peace. God says, when you pray and you bring that to me and you lay it with me and don't carry it any longer yourself, I'll make an exchange, you give me your problems, I'll go and work on them for you. But while you're waiting, I'll give you the peace that passes all understanding.

I'll give you a tranquility, you'll be able to sleep at night, you'll be calm. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds as you walk with Jesus Christ. And the word there in the Greek is a sentry who's on duty, and let's say this is your mind and your heart, this carpet, so the peace of God will march and keep guard over your heart and your mind.

And when Satan tries to bring in other things, it'll kick it away and guard your heart and your mind. Because you've laid your problems, your needs before the Lord. He will guard, supernatural guarding.

You'll be relieved of that. Then he goes on to what I want to focus on, to how do you keep the peace of God? In other words, you break through, get free of worry, bring it to the Lord. But how many have found, how many have found, that you can have a devotional time, you can come to the prayer meeting on Tuesday night, make that a habit and you'll see new peace in your life.

Learn to pray with others and that will build up your own private prayer life. So he now is pointing out something we've all experienced. You go to a prayer meeting or you have a devotional time or you go to a service and God just lifts your spirit, blesses your heart, you fly out of the building, you're just all up and praising God, and then within six hours or 12 hours or the next day, you find yourself getting depressed or sad or complaining or saying things that you shouldn't be saying.

So what happened to that? What is that? In other words, I was just up, why am I down? You know, I was just so full of love and now I'm talking about someone who's not present or I'm finding like a bitterness in my heart. What's up with that? I thought I met God, you did meet God, did get a blessing from God. But the secret is not only to meet God in times of devotion, worship, praise, but how to keep the peace.

And the name of this message is called something you hear people say a lot to each other. So what's on your mind? Some people wrongly answer, oh, nothing, which is impossible. It's impossible to have nothing on your mind.

If I counted to three and said, everybody don't think of anything, it's an impossibility. Watch, one, two, three. See, you're thinking of something.

You're looking at me, you're reacting. What was that question? The mind is like a shark. Sharks never stop.

They're always moving. Same with the mind. So now Paul gives us the secret to the Philippian church of how to maintain the peace of God.

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. Verse nine, whatever you have learned or received or heard from me or seen in me, put it into practice and the God of peace will be with you. The peace of God which passes all understanding will help you when you pray.

Now, that's the exchange, now the God of peace will remain with you. When will he remain with you? Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, the opposite of lies and false. Whatever is noble, the opposite of that is ignoble, low, mean, base, crude.

Whatever is right, that's just, don't think about things that are unjust. Whatever is pure, don't let your mind be filled with impure thoughts. Your mind's gonna be filled with something.

It can't be impure. You gotta keep your mind on pure things. That's the danger of media, magazines, billboards, because the visual can turn easily into impure thoughts which can knock on the door but the problem here is do you let them in and have coffee with you? Or do you stop them at the door and say no, that's not something that can be in my mind, I'm a Christian and I understand because I've learned this that I can't have my mind corrupted by impure thoughts.

Whatever is lovely, that's the opposite of ugly. Don't think about ugly things. Whatever is admirable, that's praiseworthy, that's lovely and admirable are almost the same in the Greek, it's just about something beautiful.

If anything is excellent or praiseworthy, think about such things. Think about such things. Think about such things.

Let these ideas be in your head constantly. Praiseworthy brings us to this question, that for every thought in our mind, can we say I can praise God for this thought? I can praise God for this thought. Now what Paul is striking at here is something that eludes many of us, the power of what's in sukhabesa, in your head, in your mind, what's in my mind.

Your thought life, which we don't many times talk about surrendering to the Lord, I give God my heart, I give him my future, but the immediate thing that gives the Lord access to us as Lord and Savior of our lives is our thought life. That's what he's after, because why? You are what you think. As a man or a woman thinketh, so are they.

So to talk in some nebulous, spiritual term, I give the Lord my heart, I give the Lord my life, Lord, lead me and guide me today, and then your mind opens up to anything that knocks on the door, invites in passerbys that didn't even want to come in, is filled with all kinds of craziness, right? No thought of, is this something that would please God, is this something good for me, do I have to think about this? And of course, we have broken the link that is obvious, you are exactly every day what you think. Why are people walking around angry? Because if you open their head, they're filled with angry thoughts. What, would they have nice thoughts and act angry? Angry people have angry thoughts.

Depressing people have depressing thoughts. Whatever you think about has an effect on you. Impure images and impure thoughts have not only effect on our mind, it can then correspondingly affect the body and stir up lusts and desires.

You are exactly, I'm exactly what I think. How can I be something else? But while we say guard your heart and all of that, and it's true, watch out for your affections and what you fall in love with, it all comes down to the most basic unit, which is my thoughts. And you don't hear one Christian out of 1,000 pray at any altar, Lord, I give you my mind today.

I give you my thoughts. I don't want one thought in my mind that isn't approved by you. Put a guard around my brain, God, around my head.

And as the thoughts knock on the door, first of all, give me a warning when thoughts are approaching me that are not of you. Make me shudder at the very knocking at the door. But I don't want anything, because you're not only God of my heart and my body, my body is the temple, you're the God of my mind.

My mind belongs to you. Not just my hand, because the hand only moves at the direction of the mind. Listen, there are things when you go to the doctor and he makes you sit on the edge, and he dangles your legs, and he gives you that hit right there, and your leg instinctively jumps out without a thought.

That's one of the few things in this world that happens just like that, a reflex action. Everything else is prompted by thought, even though it's just milliseconds. There's a thought behind it.

Why do people act proud and boast? Because they have proud thoughts. Well, of course, where else would they get that? And we're fighting the action and not realizing that unless you look at the thought, how would the action stop? If my thinking doesn't change, how could my actions change? Oh God, deliver me from this, deliver me from that. And then our mind just dwells on all kinds of garbage, all kinds of stuff.

There's a woman that we're praying for in another state. She's in her 70s, and she's cut off now basically from her whole family, including her siblings, her own children, her husband. Very hard to be around, I'm told.

And in the hospital, where she almost had a stroke, what's inside rage? Why would she be like that? It's because she's still talking about how her mother and father mistreated her when she was 16, 17, and 18 years old. She's 74. She's talking about when she was 16, 17, and 18 years old.

She's thinking thoughts of bitterness and resentment and unforgiveness, and voila, guess what? She's full of bitterness and rage, and she's gonna die a very lonely person if the Lord doesn't intervene. And you could pray deliverance over her, deliver, deliver, deliver, unless God changes her mind. What does the Bible say in Romans chapter 12? So be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

What does that mean? A different thought life. A different thought life. People who live and do dirty things have dirty thoughts.

Well, of course. How would you have pure thoughts and do dirty things? People who have racial animosity and anger and prejudice, whether white or black or whatever, they have those thoughts inside of them. When they were planted, how long they've been there, I don't know, but we are all a product of our thoughts.

Everybody, everybody here. Proud thoughts, complex-ridden thoughts, thoughts of rejection, stuff that happened in school or with your family. I know of a person who had a problem with bedwetting until they were older and grew up around a lot of other siblings.

And the siblings, as siblings will do, made fun of the woman because she wet her bed and whatnot, way past the age when that stops. That thing got lodged in her head. She was rejected kind of by the kids.

She saw rejection everywhere. She saw rejection everywhere, all through her adult life. She's gone to be with the Lord.

But I don't care how you say hello, she would behind the scenes say, they don't really like me, or they don't like me. No, she just shook your hand and said, how are you, praise God, I love you. They didn't mean it.

You ever met people like that? Where did that behavior come from? That's what they think all the time. At night, we all have thought life. We got DVDs we pull out.

Oldies but goodies. Dionne and the Belmonts, the Platters, everybody. Temptations, Motown, and what you play in your mind, well, of course it's gonna affect how you live.

How could it not? And that's why Paul says, do you really want to change? Do you really want to keep the peace of God? Do you want to have an abiding peace of God? So let me give you some practical instructions. You want the peace of God really to stay with you? Do you want that joy and peace not intermittently? Oh, he had a good meeting, that's great. And then you're depressed on Monday morning.

What caused that depression? Had to be something linked to your thoughts. And of course, Satan, knowing this, attacks the mind. What is really temptation? Temptation is the thought that comes to your mind.

Remember, Jesus had evil thoughts brought to his mind. The thought is not evil, it's not sinful. It won't harm you until you let it in.

The thought approaching has to be resisted. Wait, at the door, you're not coming in. We're full, we're having a party in here and you're not invited.

How many are with me, say amen. Let's clap for that, let's clap for that. The thought coming to my mind, those things you can't control.

That's where temptation is, that's how Satan tempts. To submit to it, to entertain the thought, now that starts a whole chain reaction and it's all negative. So I have known, and I know it from my own battles, but I've known people all my life in the ministry who know God, pray to God, fill with the Holy Spirit, can be used by God and all of that, but to work with them, to try to get along with them after the service is over,

impossible.

Incredible. Really. Why? Because their thought life is so troubled that they bring an inner chaos or a critical thing, a lack of, just a jealous thing, you know, jealous thoughts make for jealous.

It could happen with men too. You ever see how women look at women? I'm treading on very delicately, right? Walk carefully, son, walk carefully. Some woman can look at another woman and go, you know what, that's beautiful.

Where'd you get that dress? That looks so nice. And another woman who has a different kind of thought life, you know the look I mean, I can't do it. But it goes from up to down to up, right? Yeah, whatever.

All of it is not state-sponsored, it's thought-sponsored. Everything. Everything.

Why is coming to church usually such an uplifting experience? And especially so for some people. Now, does the presence of the Lord sometimes come as I felt when I walked in here this morning and Freddie and you all were singing and the Lord just touches your heart and you're lifted, it's almost euphoric, it's just wonderful? True. But just having your mind directed to subjects like, oh, the blood, precious blood, what can one, see, your mind is directed to thoughts that are pure, good, oh, beautiful, praiseworthy, right? So just by, for an hour and a half or so, just having your thoughts directed is gonna produce corresponding emotions.

Nasty thoughts bring nasty emotions. Negative thoughts bring negative emotions. How, brothers and sisters, this is the point.

To battle against emotions without thinking about what you think about is silly. All emotion is a product of thought. My late father-in-law, God bless him, he told me one time when he was a new convert, he wanted to stay broken and he was around people who said you gotta always be broken and like crying or broken like that and there's a time for that that the Lord brings.

But then the joy of the Lord is our strength also. He said as a new convert, he would be around unsaved people and he would wanna read his Bible and he just felt his heart cold. So what he would do was he would think of the dog that he had growing up and how that dog was run over by a tractor.

Exactly, see what you just did? Why'd you do that? Because you thought of it. You see that? There's the thing. I just said something, it produced an image in your mind and you went, oh, see, that's the way everything is.

So he would think about his dog so that he would cry. Just, oh, Shep, what happened to him, you know? So emotions are produced by thoughts, corresponding thoughts. Nobody in the world is thinking happy thoughts, praise-filled thoughts, and goes around sad.

It's impossible. When my late father-in-law passed away, I took it so hard that they asked me to speak at the funeral and I couldn't. And I was a basket case because my thoughts were all memories, memories, he won't be there for me or with me.

And now later, I can talk about it. I don't have the same emotions because the thoughts aren't so intense. I've got used to the thought that he's gone.

His body isn't there in front of me. So that's how all emotions are. Do you wanna have happy feelings? Think happy thoughts.

Think about his love. Think about his good. That'll chase the clouds away.

Or think about the clouds and you'll have a cloudy day. Think about who hurt you five years ago, five hours ago. Just keep thinking about that.

Good, think about it. Think about how your dad did that, whatever. Let me think about my dad's drinking all the time, what he did, think about the times he beat my mother.

Let me just think about that all the time and see what kind of day I have. Well, of course. How else could it be? So Satan is always trying to manipulate our minds.

He can't get us unsaved as we put our trust in Jesus, but he can try to rain on God's parade of peace and joy. He doesn't want us to have peace and joy. He wants you to walk around depressed, look like you're baptized in lemon juice.

You ever meet Christians like that? Is that not sad? Come on, do I get an amen? No, and there might be some here, so don't say amen too loud. You're no advertisement for how good the Lord is because you don't have a smile, you have no joy, you're not exhibiting peace. Well, why? Why wouldn't you? You are a Christian.

Well, of course, why? It's because if we could just open up our heads, we would know why everyone is the way they are. Peaceful people have peaceful thoughts. Angry, fighting people have thoughts inside of anger and fighting.

Well, of course, how else could it be? And we live in this denial or illusory spiritual state of God's gotta do a work in my life. True, verdad, but it's gotta start in my head. Especially as a believer, he's gotta renew my mind.

What does renew my mind? Get new thoughts in there. So now, practical and I close. Number one, this consecration has to be done for our minds.

You have to consecrate your mind. A lot of you have never done that. Never had a prayer where you say, you know, because most times when we preach, give God your heart.

But heart in the Bible speaks of the whole inner person. You gotta give God not just your heart, your emotions, put your trust in him, but sooner or later, if you're gonna become more like Jesus, he's gonna deal with you about how you think, your mind. So you have to say, not only does my body belong to him, I don't want nicotine, I don't want anything coming in my body that's nasty.

Why? Because my body belongs to the Lord. I don't want anything that could stir up, get me drunk, get me acting wild, and me especially, because my dad was an alcoholic, so I don't know what tendencies I have that way, so I'm not touching any of that. I'm not gonna argue with somebody about a glass of wine and all of that, but for me, no, because my body belongs to the Lord, and I don't wanna get crazy on some kind of, I don't need a stimulant.

If you have Jesus, who needs a stimulant? Come on, are you with me on that? Christians don't need to smoke weed. We don't need to smoke weed, we have the Lord. And that's bad for not only your body, but

for your brain.

Lord, I wanna give you my mind. My mind is gonna belong to you. Pastor Simba, what are you saying? My mind, I give you my mind.

Today, I'm gonna pray with Pastor Simba, and I give you my mind, i.e., I give you my thought life. Most of you, we've never even thought about that, to give God your thought life. Our idea is go to church, praise God, get all emotional and praise him, and then the mind is just like a sewer.

Anything can come in, right? Just think of that. We wouldn't let our children eat bad food, and us, we wouldn't take in bad food. But food for the mind, oh, anything comes.

Come on, come on in. Join the parade. Most of us, instead of being like, oh, I don't know if I should have that.

Tell you about the time I was in Argentina. First time I was ever there. I'm out in the outdoors in a camp.

They had a kiosko, which is where they served cafecito and biscochos and pastry and all of this kind of stuff. I go there, and I didn't speak any Spanish then, and I was suffering from culture shock. I've been preaching there, and this was a new gringo for them to meet and know.

And I'm with my friend. They offered me, and they said, let us give you some coffee, some cafe. Here they cafe.

So he said, they want to know, they want to treat you to coffee. I said, yeah, I'll have some. So they said, do you want some pastry? So they were out on trays on the counter.

I said, no, I really don't want any. He said, hey, don't turn them down. That could insult them.

Have it. I said, okay, which one do you want? I said, I'll take the one with the chocolate covering. So he pointed to that one.

As they went to reach it, I realized that was not chocolate covering. There was about 500 flies that had all landed, and the lady went like this, and they went, in formation. They all flew away.

The lady took it and handed it to me. Yeah, exactly, that's what I was thinking. I bit into it and ate it out of, I didn't want to offend them.

But you see how we just reacted to what might go in my stomach, but what could go in my mind? Oh, there we don't give a thought. So you have to consecrate your mind today, but here's the catch. You gotta do it every day.

Today won't do it. You have to do it for some of us every hour. Every hour.

Because some of our thought lives are really bad. I'm not just talking about impurity and nastiness and that. I'm thinking about resentment, rejection, just thoughts that are not, you can't praise God for that thought.

Remember, whatever's praiseworthy, think on these things. I can't praise God for that thought. What kind of thought? Thoughts are gonna come from your memory bank.

Thoughts are gonna come, whatever. But you have to ask God, God, you help me to guard them, and I'm gonna put a guard, just like I have it on the mouth. I don't want to eat bad food.

You put a guard in my mind so that every thought that approaches me, I'm gonna check it out, ask its credentials. Does this part of something praiseworthy, whatever's lovely, whatever's pure, whatever's noble, whatever's nice, think on those things. Then you'll be noble and nice and true and pure.

Number two, I want you to remind you of this. The way to avoid a thought and to escape them is not to fight against the thought, just change the thought. The mind is made up in such a way you cannot think of two things at the same time.

I cannot think about that pulpit and meditate on how it's made and also meditate on the soundboard that Sharon is working. I cannot think of those two at the same time. You can multitask, but you move back and forth.

You can only think of one thing at a time. So when a thought comes and is oppressing you, it's a weak area. You know where the Bible says don't give Satan a place, a position to Satan? Where do you think that means? Your hand, your knee, your head? You just change the thought.

Think about his goodness. Think about his grace. Think about Calvary.

Think about when God came through for you. Can't you think of some good things God has done? How many have ever had your prayer answered? Just lift your hand. Come on, lift your hand up high.

Think about that answered prayer. How many have ever had God come through financially for you? Think about that. How many have ever had a person in your life that really blessed you? How many have ever been in a meeting where God just lifted you out of the doldrums? Think about that.

Think about those meetings. Think about anything. Because the moment you divert to that thought, the power of that other thought loses its oomph.

But don't fight against that thought because remember, you can't keep your mind empty. It's impossible. It's always gonna have a thought.

So redirect the thought. Think on these things. Now, Satan, when he comes, and it's not just memory bank or tendencies we all have.

When Satan comes, you gotta learn to cry out to God. I've talked to people who are on heroin, methadone, people involved in every kind of craziness. Well, what do you think? Satan's not gonna bring those thoughts back and say, come on, come on, look.

And those thoughts have power. They're connected with pleasure, right? But you know they're not right. You know they're not right.

How many are with me to this point? Just say amen. Amen. Okay, so now you just have to, I don't care if you have to do it 50 times a day.

Jesus, help me. Jesus, help me. I'm being attacked by a thought that's not pure, not right, not noble, not loving, not kind.

Help me, Jesus, right now. Just help me, Jesus. Help me to divert now my mind to something good and pure.

Will Satan knock again? Yep, he might knock in 10 minutes. Call on the Lord again. Jesus, he's back again.

Dirty dog, he's trying to get a thought into my mind. Lord, I plead your help right now. Your grace, Lord.

You said in your word you would protect me from all enemies. My enemies are not physical. My enemy is invisible.

Now protect me from all his strategies and all his schemes. I give you my mind again. I reconsecrate it.

He'll help you. Will he come back again? Yeah, half hour later, he's gonna knock again. Lord, you divert your mind or you say, Lord, help me.

This is strong. He's coming and you know how I used to yield my mind to these nasty thoughts, negative thoughts, gossiping thoughts, proud thoughts, victim thoughts. You know, people think that they're victimized.

That's all they see. So how do they act? Like a victim. Then other people have had a worse life and they're triumphant and praising God.

Why? Because of the difference of the way they think. One's had a worse life and is triumphant. The other one has had just some bruises and rejections like we've all had.

It's all how you think. The Lord will help you. And then you know what you find? He'll come less and less because he knows, ooh, I can't get in there.

Tried that about 200 times. Won't let me in anymore. I used to live in there.

Used to just, you know, have roti, the callaloo, just sit and just have a good time. Now I can't even get in. Can't get in.

And then you'll see a change in your peace and your joy. The God of peace will be with you. You'll walk around praising him more because your thoughts are gonna be on, oh, he's so good to me.

Brothers and sisters, last sentence. Tell the truth. Isn't it true that we could spend from now till midnight just praising him for all his goodness? Lift your hand if you believe that.

So why don't we think, listen, so that's the point. Why don't we think about those things that are praiseworthy, that are pure, that are good? So today I wanna join with you. I touched on this in my Thursday Bible class.

When I came home, Lord kept me up all Thursday night off and on with these thoughts in my head and heart. You gotta tell the people. I'll help them with their thoughts.

I love them. I want them to have good thoughts. What a heartbreak when you're a parent and you see your kid all bent out of shape because of negative thoughts.

No one likes me. Yeah, they do. No, don't say that.

You're lying. You're just saying that. That's all from the mind.

That's not a praiseworthy thought. That's not a God thought. Let's close our eyes and pray.

This is all for us, all of us. But I feel the prompting in my heart. For some of you, this is a lifeline.

Exactly. That's how suicide happens. Suicidal thoughts.

Thoughts of despair. Meditating and accepting and dwelling on such negativity that now you don't wanna live anymore. Or some other battle that you're fighting.

But today in the name of Christ who loves you so much he gave his life for you, I entreat you, give your mind to God today. Say, God, renew it. Teach me a new way of thinking.

Fill my mind with different thoughts. I've been careless about what I think about. I didn't even see this in the Word.

I thought you could just serve God and then let any thought come in and out and then I wondered why there's such a up and down-ness in my spiritual walk. One moment I'm on fire and the next moment I'm despair. So God, I am gonna ask you now to put a guard on my mind.

Work with me, teach me. Teach me how to divert the way Pastor Simba has said to a godly thought. Teach me how to call upon you when Satan comes in with heavy artillery into my brain.

But I want a renewed mind. Those of you who feel like Pastor Simba, that's for everyone. Look, it's for the preacher first.

But that's for me today. That's for me today. In a special way that you could never know, Pastor Simba.

While you were speaking, the thought came to me and the Holy Spirit wants you to know that he knew that. The thought came to me, how could he know exactly what I'm battling with? You just stand where you are so I can have a special prayer for you. Whether you're behind me or in front of me, I wanna consecrate my mind.

It's a necessity, it's an emergency. God's gotta get a hold of my head today, this moment. Just stand where you are.

Lord, for all of us, as we close this service, for all of us, but especially for those standing, I give you my brothers and sisters. Before me, behind me. You know the battle.

You know the attacks of the enemy. You know the upbringing where all kinds of crazy thoughts were almost like injected into our lives. Today, I ask you to help them to consecrate and give their minds over to you so that you would control every thought.

Every thought. That's how radical we are today. Every thought.

Every thought brought into captivity to Jesus Christ. Every thought. Every thought, when we lay in bed at night, when we're in church, when we're having lunch with someone, every thought, make us sensitive to what we're thinking about, to the approach of negative, wrong thoughts, things that are unjust, untrue, low, base, vulgar, carnal, hateful, prejudiced.

We know the enemy's always trying to plant lies in our mind and we ask you now today, God, to teach us to resist the lies of the enemy and fill our minds with your truth. For you never lie. Whatever's good, whatever's lovely, whatever's pure, whatever's noble, whatever's of a high tone, whatever is respectable, help us think of those things.

If any thought we can't give praise to you for, God, then cast it out, help us to reject it and put our mind on something good. But we're not gonna live now on the up and down lifestyle of enjoying you and praising you and then feeling despair within 12 hours. That is not your plan for any of our lives.

So we thank you for what you're gonna do in all of our lives. We give you our minds now. Everyone just put your hands on your temple, on your forehead.

We give you our minds today. I give you my mind. And God, we're gonna consecrate it every morning to you.

If we have to do five times a day, five times a day. If we have to call on you 20 times a day, you're gonna help us think pure thoughts, lovely thoughts. Not only does my heart belong to you and my body, my mind belongs to you.

We say it now in Jesus' name. Amen. And now God made the love of the Father, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the communion of the Holy Spirit.

Oh yes. Fellowshiping with us all day today. Heart, mind and body, we give it to you.

Now we're gonna love each other, Lord, in your name. Be happy, Lord. Be pleased with our encouraging one another.

We pray in Christ's name. Everyone said. Amen.

Hug one another. Everybody say something good. Put something good in someone's mind.

Audio: <https://sermonindex1.b-cdn.net/27/SID27502.mp3>

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/jim-cymbala/whats-on-your-mind/>

Grow in Your Walk with Christ

Listen and read messages that will stir your heart for Christ and point you to deeper repentance and devotion.

- 50,000+ Sermons from speakers past and present
- 3,900+ Classic Christian Books freely readable online
- 1,200+ Bible Translations and Commentaries
- Over 450k forum posts — Join our vibrant online Christian forum

www.sermonindex.net