

THOUGHTS THAT HELP

HOW YOU THINK MATTERS

- Our thought patterns
 1. A compilation of various factors
- New creations need new thoughts and perspectives
 1. New engines with old transmissions
 2. Why you are directed to do something about your thinking
- The biblical answer (**Romans 12:2 NKJV**)
 1. Renewing your mind - renovate to pull out the old and replace with new
 2. The key to a transformed life

GIDEON: A MAN WITH GREAT POTENTIAL LIMITED BY HIS THINKING (**Judges 6:11-16; 22-24 NKJV**)

- Gideon was influenced by his bad environment
 1. The nation had turned away from God - negative spiritual environment
 2. Oppressed by the Midianites for seven years
- Gideon had wrong thoughts about God
 1. Blamed God for the condition of the nation
 2. He was limited by what he could see - no miracles, God was not there
 3. His thoughts and beliefs revealed a God who was not good
- Gideon had wrong thoughts about himself
 1. Ignored the good news that God called him a mighty man
 2. He did not believe He could do what God said - how can I do this
 3. Saw himself as the weakest member of the weakest family
- Began to change his thoughts about God
 1. Went from believing God was out to kill him
 2. To coming to see that God was a God of peace

TWO KEY THINKING AREAS THAT NEED RENEWAL

- How you think about yourself
 1. In your relationship with Christ, you are a new creation (**2 Corinthians 5:17 NKJV**)
 2. You are much more than meets the eye
 3. Find out what God has said about you (**Romans 8:37 NKJV**)
- How you think about God
 1. Don't look around you to determine if God cares
 2. God is your answer, not your problem
 3. God is for you (**Romans 8:31 NKJV**)