

THE MIND FIELD

Part 3: Higher Thoughts

WHAT WE THINK ABOUT OURSELVES

- Things that influence our identity
 1. What others say about us
 2. What we think about ourselves
- A higher source of identity - what God says about us **(Isaiah 55:8-9 NKJ)**
 1. God's thoughts are higher - His word reveals some of His thoughts
 2. He is able to see beyond our past / present

THE UPS AND DOWNS OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

- His higher level thoughts about himself **(John 1:19-23 NKJ)**
 1. He knew who he was not
 2. When they demanded an answer he gave them a scripture
- His higher level thoughts about Jesus **(John 3:28-30 NKJ)**
 1. He recognized Jesus as the Messiah
 2. He knew Jesus would continue to increase above John himself
- John's thoughts go dark **(Matthew 11:2-6 NKJ)**
 1. John had been stuck in prison and it impacted his thinking - discouraged
 2. Could have been expecting Jesus to get him out - key word offended
 3. Jesus was kind to John - referred John back to scriptures

A HIGHER THOUGHT STRATEGY

- Know who you really are
 1. The source of a stronger identity is scripture
 2. What are God's higher thoughts about you? **(1 Peter 2:9-10 NKJ)**
- Know who Jesus is
 1. What are your thoughts about Him?
 2. What do the scriptures say about Him?
- Recognize the enemies of higher level thoughts
 1. Discouragement - especially if you have been "stuck" for a long season
 2. Offended - when things have not turned out as you planned
 3. Always go back to scripture and refuse to go negative **(Romans 8:31-32 NKJ)**