

We must control our thought life.

But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment, Matthew 12:36.

Our words are powerful; we tend to remember certain words that are spoken over us or that we have spoken to others years later. With our words, we either curse or bless.

¹⁸ But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man. ¹⁹ For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, . . . , Matthew 15:18-19.

For as he thinks in his heart, so is he: Eat and drink, saith he to thee; but his heart is not with thee, Proverbs 23:7.

Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof, Proverbs 18:21.

The principle of sowing and reaping also applies to the thoughts that we think and entertain and the words that we speak. This remains true, whether we realize it or not.

So shall My Word be that goes forth out of My mouth: it shall not return unto Me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it, Isaiah 55:11.

The above scripture tells us that when we speak His positive, faith-filled Words, His life-giving Words shall not return void, and we shall reap from His Words. Likewise, however, all the words that we speak, whether they are faith-filled or not, we shall also reap what we have sown from those words.

Therefore, we must take control of our thoughts by rejecting every idea that elevates itself above Christ.

pulling down imaginations and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought into the obedience of Christ; 2nd Corinthians 10:5.

We see Christ also wrestling with this concept.

But I have a baptism to be baptized with; and how am I straitened till it be accomplished! Luke 12:50.

The word “straitened,” Strong’s # G4912, has also been translated “constrained” “and “pressed.” I believe Jesus also experienced how the world can lure us into its selfish and corrupted way of thinking. For scripture tells us that Jesus was tempted in all points as is common to mankind, Hebrews 4:15.

As Jesus went to the cross, He had to keep His mind extremely focused on His mission (to redeem mankind) and ONLY on walking in the light and the love of God. And we see the merciful and gracious result of this when He said on the cross, Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do, Luke 23:34. Jesus' blood gives us mercy and grace; it speaks of much better things than that of Abel, Hebrews 12:24.

And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God, Romans 12:2.

This scripture tells us not to be conformed to the world but to be transformed by the renewing of our minds (according to God's Word). Without making a purposeful and deliberate effort to control our mind and thoughts, we will end up being conformed to the darkness of the world, for the ways of the world calls and tempts all of us.

This may seem as being an impossible task, but if we wish to walk in the light as He is in the light, 1st John 1:7, and live a victorious Christian life, we must be able to take our thoughts captive and cast down all thoughts that exalts itself against the knowledge of Christ, 2nd Corinthians 10:5. While learning to think righteous thoughts of peace and love.

Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, honest, just, pure, lovely, of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things, Philippians 4:8.

A prayer to walk in the narrow path.

Father, I exalt and praise Your name. I thank You for the sacrifice that Jesus paid on the cross so that all of mankind could be saved and walk in Your marvelous light.

I now realize that Jesus also gave us an example of walking in the narrow way, not being conformed to the world but living according to and being transformed by God's divine Word and truth, reflecting God's goodness, mercy, and love.

Lord, we have all been called to walk in the light as You are in the light. And it's my heart's desire to walk in the light, being in fellowship with You. Therefore, I invite Your Holy Spirit to move within my heart, allowing me to discern light from darkness, so that I may have true fellowship with You, as well as other fellow believers in Christ.

May You grant unto me the spirit of wisdom, that my understanding may know the vastness of His calling and what are the riches of His inheritance to the saints.

And that I may always walk in obedience according to the guidance of Your Spirit, reflecting the goodness and love of Christ to others. That my walk alone may be a witness to bring many others to Christ Jesus, for Christ alone is the way, the truth, and the life, and light always overcomes darkness.

Amen.

The Narrow Way walking in the light.

¹³ Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide *is* the gate, and broad *is* the way, that leads to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: ¹⁴ Because strait *is* the gate, and narrow *is* the way, which leads unto life, and few there be that find it, Matthew 7:13-14.

*People generally consider this scripture as pertaining to salvation; rather, we need to see it as a verse regarding a victorious Christian's walk. For our salvation is contingent only on us believing and confessing Christ Jesus as Lord and believing that God raised Him from the dead, **Romans 10:9**.*

Rather, the concept of the narrow way complements the passages in Romans below, stating that living and thinking carnally (according to the ways of the world) leads to death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

⁵ For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. ⁶ For to be carnally minded *is* death; but to be spiritually minded *is* life and peace. ⁷ Because the carnal mind *is* enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. **Romans 8:5-7**.

To give you a pictorial image of this, I have put a black & white, grayscale light spectrum below to emphasize the fact that there is only a small sliver of pure white light in the spectrum, while the rest of the spectrum is either absolute black, shades of black, or shades of gray.

But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin, ^{1st} John 1:7.

