

## Westwood Life Groups - *A Place to Belong & A Place to Grow*

Life Group Leaders & Meeting Times (groups with a \* meet at the Westwood building):

5:30pm, Mondays-Terry Boyd

6:00pm, Saturdays- David Womack

\*11:45, Sundays – David Britton

\*11:45, Sundays – Joseph Stotts

\* 1:00, Sundays – Bob Deason

7:00, Wednesdays – Teens

1:00, Sundays-Glenn Mitchell

1:30, Sundays- Tim Deason

5:00, Sundays – Kirk Mullican

5:00, Sunday- Neil Helton

6:00, Sundays-Terry Connor

\*6:00, Sundays – Jeff McKinley

6:00, Sundays – Josh Chandler

(PLEASE, CALL IN ATTENDANCE TO CHURCH OFFICE)

### *Living What We Say We Believe, #7* *A Pure Heart*

Introduction:

#### **I. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the Heart**

- *“People harvest only what they plant” (Galatians 6:7).* The proof is everywhere you look.
- Think for a minute of your heart as a greenhouse and your thoughts as seeds.
  - Some thoughts become like flowers.
  - Others become like weeds.
  - Some sow seeds of hope and enjoy optimism.
  - Some sow seeds of doubt and expect insecurity.

#### **II. \_\_\_\_\_ our Hearts**

- Shouldn't we be as concerned about managing our thoughts as we are managing anything else? Jesus was. (**John 6:15; Mark 5:39-40**).
- Jesus guarded His heart. If He did, shouldn't we do the same? *“Be careful what you think, because your thoughts run your life” (Proverbs 4:23).*
- Jesus tells us that, *“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me” (Matthew 28:18).* That means he has the ultimate say on everything...including our thoughts!

#### **III. The \_\_\_\_\_ at the Doorway**

- We cannot, as Christians, allow just any and every thought to enter our minds. The Holy Spirit is ready to help us manage and filter the thoughts that try to enter.
  - 2 Corinthians 10:5; Romans 8:1-3
  - Ephesians 2:10; Romans 1:8
  - Romans 12:3; Galatians 6:14

**Close...**

- The point is this: Guard the doorway of your heart.
- Submit your thoughts to the authority of Christ.
- The more selective you are about seeds, the more delighted you will be with the crop.

Westwood Church of Christ  
Sunday Morning  
February 25, 2018

***Life Group Questions***  
***For the Week of February 25, 2018***

1. Just how difficult do you find it to be to control your thoughts on a daily basis?
2. If, as we mentioned this morning, we consider our hearts as greenhouses and our thoughts as seeds, what crop should we expect to harvest based on Galatians 6:7?
3. What eternal principle is taught in Proverbs 4:23?
4. Jesus practiced "***THOUGHT management***" during his personal ministry. For example: How did He steer away from arrogance in John 6:10-15? How was Jesus able to overcome mocking in Mark 5:35-43?
5. We usually excuse our own sinful thoughts by saying, "Well I'm just a human". But as Christians we are more than that...we are led by the Spirit of God (Romans 8:1-3). What are some ways the Spirit can help us "guard the door of our hearts"?
6. Read 2 Corinthians 10:5 (PHILLIPS). How do we submit all our thoughts to the authority of Christ? How might we know if Jesus agrees or disagrees?
7. Do you want to know if you have been planting good seeds or bad? Ask yourself these questions: "What dominates my thoughts?" "What dominates my conversations?" What are the honest answers?

\*\*Maybe it's time to re-cultivate the soil! You have the perfect place to start (Your Heart); The perfect seed to plant (The Word) and the perfect time to start (Right Now).