

## Think - Continued

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**Whatever is honorable.** Those things worthy of reverence. KJV margin reads venerable.

**Whatever is just.** That which is right or righteous, which conforms to the character of God.

**Whatever is pure.** Those things that are clean or free from stain in thought, motive, word, and action.

**Whatever is lovely.** Not things that are beautiful, per se, but those things that are lovable or pleasing.

**Whatever is commendable.** The opposite of scandalous. Things of which we can approve by God's word.

**If there is any excellence.** Virtue (KJV), moral excellence, vigor of the soul, excellence of character.

**If there is anything worthy of praise.** Anything that would be acceptable and praised by God.

**Think about these things.** This is not just the occasional, fleeting thought, but the idea of dwelling on these things, having our minds filled with these things instead of the filth found in the world.

What are you filling your mind with?

- John Gentry -

## News & Notes

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Please mark your calendar with the following important dates...

**April 14:** Teen Bible study, 4-7 pm, the Yen's house

**April 15:** Song practice, 5 pm, church building

**April 28:** Ladies' Bible class, 11 am, church building

**June 4-8:** VBS

Warfield Blvd. church of Christ  
290 Warfield Blvd.  
Clarksville, TN 37043

Website  
WBCOC.org

Assembly Times  
Sunday: 9:30 am, 10:30 am, 6 pm  
Wednesday: 7 pm

Everyone Is Welcome!  
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## THE WARFIELD BULLETIN

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*April 8, 2018*



For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.  
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

## Guest Article: Forgive From Your Heart

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So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.  
Matthew 18:35 ESV

Have you ever had someone do or say something to you that cut you like a knife? Maybe you've had someone seriously hurt your family. How did you react? If you're like most of us, you had to fight the urge to seek revenge and retaliate in kind with a hurtful word or action. When someone does you wrong it can be very difficult to take the high road, to swallow your pride, and to forgive.

### Forgiving, and Forgiving Again ... and Again?

Now, let's say you forgave the person, and within a few days they've committed the same transgression or hurt you in some other way. It's not as easy to forgive the second time around, is it? What about the third time? Fourth? Tenth? Or even hundredth? Where would you find the strength to forgive again and again, time after time?

### The Parable of the Unforgiving Slave

Jesus, knowing how difficult such forgiveness is, taught the parable of the unforgiving slave in Matthew 18:21–35. A king wished to settle accounts with his slaves. One slave owed the king such a large

amount of money that it would have been virtually impossible for him to pay it back. The king began to punish him for not being able to pay the debt, but the slave begged for patience. The king forgave him the debt! This slave then ran into a slave of his who owed him a small amount of money. He began choking the slave and demanded immediate payment of the debt. His slave begged patience of him, but he refused and threw him in prison. When the king heard of the matter he was infuriated with the first slave for not showing mercy on his slave as he had shown on him. He handed him over to the tortures to exact the original debt.

### Application

Sounds like an interesting story, huh? The first slave got what he deserved, didn't he? Well, Jesus went on to conclude and make the application to everyone by saying, "So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart." That's right. God will punish us and not forgive us if we fail to forgive our brethren! In the famous mountain message of the Messiah, he said it this way: "For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses" (Matthew 6:14–15). Wow! That really puts this forgiveness thing in perspective, doesn't it? If I want God to forgive me, then I **must** forgive others when they trespass against me if I want to spend eternity with God. But this forgiveness, Jesus said, is not the forgiveness of lip service. It is forgiveness that

is genuine, that comes from the heart—that is to say, we must really mean it when we forgive someone.

Next time you have someone wrong or hurt you or your loved ones, remember this verse: "So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

- John Gentry -

## Think On These Things

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Philippians 4:8 ESV

In our sin-saturated society in which so much filth is flaunted in our face in books, magazines, movies, the Internet, and the media in general, it is necessary that we guard against Satan's attempts to have us consumed with such things by filling our minds with something else. Paul gives us a list of those things in this passage.

**Whatever is true.** "Thy word is truth" (John 17:17). "I am ... the truth" (John 14:6). Truth as opposed to that which is false. — *continued*