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Grace Notes Radio Program

SERIES: Think Right Thoughts – What is RIGHT?

SONGS: BE THOU MY VISION 3:14

JESUS LORD TO ME 4:00

INTRO: Welcome to Grace Notes. We're currently in a series entitled 'Think right thoughts'. We've all heard the saying 'The mind is a terrible thing to waste'. We can waste our minds by thinking unproductive thoughts. Philippians 4:8, our main text for this series, says...

**Whatever is TRUE
whatever is NOBLE
whatever is RIGHT
whatever is PURE,
whatever is LOVELY,
whatever is ADMIRABLE;
If anything is excellent or praise-worthy
THINK ABOUT SUCH THINGS.**

On our program today, Barbara Sandbek will define what thinking is RIGHT.

In our previous studies, we determined that God's WORD is TRUE. It's the standard to use in judging WHAT to think about. God's WAY is NOBLE. It's the method to use in EXERCISING God's Word. Let's look, now, at what it means to think on things that are RIGHT.

The word 'right' in this context means 'conforming to the standard of truth and justice – according to the law or WILL of God. From this, we can conclude that to think right thoughts, we must think about God's WILL so we can LIVE OUT God's word.

But what is God's will? There is no pat formula – because His will is as unique FOR us as our fingerprints are TO us. Nevertheless, God does give direction, if we chose to find it. Hebrews 1:1-2 says that in the past God spoke His will to our forefathers through the prophets, but now He speaks to us through His Son, Jesus. Jesus speaks to us through his life and words recorded in the Bible.

Jesus, Himself, said that His teaching was from God. In John 7:17 He stated...

If anyone CHOOSES to do God's WILL, he will find out whether my teaching comes from God or whether I speak on my own.

He told us what God's will is for us in John 6:40 saying...

My Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in Him shall have eternal life and I will raise him up at the last day.

Finding the will of God is a continual process, but in order to even begin, you must first CHOOSE to submit yourself to God, by repenting of your sin and asking Jesus to be your Savior. Jesus IS LORD over all. Why not turn your will over to Him and allow Him to be Lord of your life? Then you, too, can know God's will especially designed for you. You'll never regret it.

******* WRITERS: Gary McSpaden & Greg Nelson**

***** JESUS LORD TO ME *****

*If I had seen the sunset
On the day that Jesus died
And felt the glow of the sunrise
When the tomb was opened wide
Would I have known You?
Could I have seen
That You were more than just a man
You were Lord and King?
But now I know You and I can see
That You are Lord of all
You are Lord to me*

*Jesus, Jesus, Lord to me
Master, Savior
Prince of Peace
Ruler of my heart today
Jesus, Lord to me*

YIELDING

By Barbara Sandbek

God is faithful to His word

- He never fails.

He promised He would be right by our side.

Through all life's problems, toil and strife

- we can prevail

For He is always there to be our Guide.

He said He'd show Himself to be

- our Dearest Friend

But we need to be still so we can see.

His working in our life

we'll never comprehend

Until we give Him reign to set us free.

A prisoner I will always be

if I don't choose

To let Him have His perfect will with me.

So help me, Lord, to walk Your path

so I don't lose

The chance to be the person I should be.

Philippians 2:13, written to Believers in Christ, says that it is God who works in you both to will and to act according to His good purpose. His purpose is not just A purpose - it's a GOOD purpose. But He won't exercise it for you unless you give Him control.

We need to CHOOSE to know and abide by God's will, and then SEEK to find out what it is. King David asked to know God's ways AND he also asked to know God's will. He wrote in Psalm 143:10a...

TEACH me to do Your will, for YOU are my God.

He also prayed to WANT to WANT God's will. He is so like us. We don't naturally want God's will - only when it agrees with ours.

Once we're part of God's family through belief in Christ, we need to turn our body over to Him, because its with our bodies, that we exercise our will.

Romans 12:1a says...

Present your body, a living sacrifice unto the Lord.

In 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8 Paul writes...

It is God's WILL that you should be sanctified (or set apart), that you should avoid sexual immorality; that each of you should learn to CONTROL his own body in a way that is holy and honorable, not in passionate lust like the heathen, who do not know God....For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life.

By yielding to the power of the Holy Spirit in us who guides us in all truth, we can say 'NO' to wrong things.

And we're to turn our mind over to the Lord for renewal as well. Romans 12:2 continues...

Be not conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what is that good, acceptable and perfect WILL of God.

Our mind is renewed through mediating on God's Word and praying.

We can know that we're following God's will, if we're producing the fruit of the spirit which according to Galatians 5:22 is...

Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Listen to what Ephesians 5:8-9 says...

You were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. LIVE as children of light (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth).

Remember, the definition of RIGHT is 'conforming to the standard of truth'. In Ephesians 5:17 we're told not to be foolish but to understand what the Lord's will is. It goes on to give us a list of practical ways to exercise God's will...

- be filled with the Spirit**
- speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs**
- sing and make music in your hearts to the Lord**
- ALWAYS give thanks to God the Father for EVERYTHING**

These are just a few. Ephesians 5:10 says we should find out what pleases the Lord. Why not look for the others, yourself, in the Word?

Jesus said that He did only what He saw His Father doing. We must focus our mind on

God and ask Him to give us clear vision to see His will for us.

***** **WRITER: Audrey Assad**

***** BE THOU MY VISION *****

*Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art
Thou my best Thought, by day or by night
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light*

*Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one*

*Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise
Thou mine Inheritance, now and always
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart
High King of Heaven, my Treasure Thou art*

*High King of Heaven, my victory won
May I reach Heaven's joys, O bright Heav'n's Sun
Heart of my own heart, whate'er befall
Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all*

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Join us on our next program. Until then, let your grace notes be a song of praise!