

Ridin' High Cowboy Church

8771 FM 35
Union Valley, TX

Pastor: Steve Bishop

MISSION STATEMENT

*Ride out and round up the lost cowboys and cowgirls
Everywhere so they can know our Savior, Jesus Christ.*

November 29, 2015 ~ I Love It When a Plan Comes Together

God has a plan for your life ... for it to come together, we have to change some things that come naturally.

Look at the importance of the word “set” in the following scripture...

Colossians 3:1-4 1 ***Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.***

(This means all power and authority on heaven and earth has been given to Jesus)

2 ***Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.***

Our Thoughts Precede our actions.

If you want to know what people are thinking look at what they do.

PHIL4:8 “Finally brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things.

Paul says think about these things ...

This is the way to avoid those “what was I thinking” moments in life!

Whatever is true:

What if someone was basing their life on something false ... you would stop them.

Satan is the father of lies. He wants to fill our minds with things like nobody likes you, your no good, God doesn't love you ...

Noble – worthy of respect. Deals primarily with your character. Fill our minds with things that cause people to respect our character. This is the reason for stories of great faith.

Hebrews 11, 12:1, tells us - Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great crowd of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so

easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance, the race marked out for us.

Right or Just – Paul was locked up in prison (unjustly) and he filled his mind with right things. Do you focus on what is right or what is wrong? The bible teaches positive thinking ..do a couple of bad things overwhelm your thinking when there are thousands of good things to dwell on?

Pure – what kind of water do you like to drink, from the ditch or from an Ozarka bottle?

Lovely – Equates generosity – speaking a word over someone.

Admirable – euphemism (a word or phrase used in place of a term that might be considered too direct, harsh, unpleasant or offensive. Paul is telling us there some things that need to be replaced in our thinking with something else. And if anything ... Paul is saying I helped you with the first six, but once you get started, the possibilities are endless.

Excellent or Praiseworthy – Paul set a goal for us...the bar
If you aim at the moon and miss you hit the stars...
Thoughts that hold us most, mold us most...
Most excellent people have excellent thoughts...
Think on these things or dwell or meditate, saturate

3 *For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God.*

The importance of this statement can be illustrated in the story of Lazarus. He got sick, died, 4 days later, Jesus raised him from the dead. The people believed Jesus and not the religious leaders who said Jesus was a fake, because they could SEE Lazarus. The leaders wanted to kill Lazarus. When he was told they wanted to kill him, he was like “no problem – been there done that.” Lazarus never thought of death the same way as he did before. His life was hidden with Christ.

When you understand who Jesus is and the potential you have in him, you will rise above the normal worries of this life.

4 *When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory..*

You can have a life or you can have Christ’s life in you...

The wrong question is: “God, what is your plan for my life?”

The right question is, “God, what is your plan for your life in me.”

Colossians 1:27 Christ in you, is the hope of glory ...