



Jericho Ministries

breaking down the walls

Basil & Susan Marotta

Hi Folks:

July 2010

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you, for enabling us at Jericho Ministries to effectively reach and help men and women in need. We are blessed to call you friends and partners with us in ministry. A ministry friend uses the word allies instead of partner. That is true...we are allies in this battle to win men's and women's hearts for God.

We are in troubling times...many that we encounter are hurting financially, physically and even spiritually. Sometimes it is easy to succumb to negative thinking...but as Joel Osteen has been quoted, "The enemy's number one target is the arena of your thoughts. He knows if he can control and manipulate how you think; he'll be able to control and manipulate your entire life."

We must take responsibility for ourselves. It starts with our thoughts.

Set your mind on higher things. It is a matter of control. Your will controls your mind...your mind controls your thoughts...your thoughts control your actions... your actions determine your lifestyle...and your lifestyle determines your legacy. What legacy will you be leaving?

We all go through tough times and experience problems. We say, "My circumstances have me down. You don't know what I have been going through." But really it isn't the circumstances that get us down, **but our thoughts about the circumstances.**

Paul said : "I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. {12} I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. {13} **I can do everything through him who gives me strength. I can be content in every circumstance.**" (Phil 4:11-13 NIV)

So, the solution is to cast our cares onto the Lord...trust in God ...Jesus said, "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." (John 16:33 NIV)

As you think and meditate on the promises of God's Word, you will be filled with hope instead of despair.

(Phil 4:8) 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.

So, when your thoughts lean to the negative, remember that negative thoughts are not from God...they are from our sinful nature or from the enemy.) "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." (John 10:10 NIV)

Take up the armor of God...put away destructive thoughts...and replace them with positive, life giving, Godly thoughts.

(2 Cor 10:4-5 NIV) The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. {5} We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and **we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.**

(Rom 12:2 NIV) Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, **but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.** Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will.

(1 John 4:4 NIV) You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, **because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.**

We want to again thank you for your encouragement, prayers and support. We are allies together in the battle against evil. We think that in the next couple of years, the church will have an extraordinary opportunity to be Christ-like in the midst of the great needs around us. So control your thoughts, don't grow weary in doing good, for at the proper time you will reap a harvest.

Sue and I have committed to pray for this country every day at least until the November elections...we hope you will join us!

Blessings to you all. Have a great summer.

Basil & Sue

Phil 1: 3-5