

**PHILIPPIANS 4:8**

2/20/10

Phil. 4:8 think on these things

*	that are true	*	that are lovely
*	that are honest	*	that are of a good report
*	that are just	*	if there be any virtue
*	that are pure	*	if there be any praise

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1. REMEMBER THE POSITIVE FOUNDATION

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Remember -- Why were you born?  
Remember -- Why were you called?

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2. RECOGNIZE THE NEGATIVE

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\* Examples -- recognizing the negative

1 Sam. 8:4-6 Samuel recognized the mistake of the elders  
and people of Israel

1 Sam. 26:21-24 David recognized the negative about Saul -- he  
avoided him

Ezra 9:1-15 Ezra recognized the sin of the people --  
prayed

Esther 4:1 Mordecai perceived the evil that was done

Isaiah 37:1-5 Hezekiah recognized the situation

Matt. 7:15-20 Christ taught -- beware of false prophets

John 8:59 Christ recognized the danger -- hid

John 10:39-40 Christ recognized the danger -- hid

Acts 14:14-15 Barnabas and Paul recognized the wrong  
approach

2 Cor. 11:13,20 Paul taught saints to recognize the bondage of  
false apostles

1 Tim. 6:3-5 Paul taught saints to withdraw from proclaimed  
teachers who teach wrong ideas and who  
covet financial gain

2 Tim. 4:14-15 Paul recognized the evil of Alexander the  
coppersmith

3 John 9-10 John recognized the wrong deeds of Diotrephes

\* Instructions -- to recognize the negative

Prov. 14:15 the simple believe every word -- the prudent  
look well to their going  
(buying a car or a house)  
(choosing a fiancée)

Luke 14:28-30           count the cost -- will you finish the tower? -  
                                   - do you have enough workers, time &  
                                   money?  
       31-32           count the cost -- will you win the war? -- do  
                                   you have enough soldiers? -- where will  
                                   you be fighting? -- what terrain and what  
                                   conditions? -- properly equipped & enough  
                                   supplies? -- how long will the war last?  
                                   -- what will it take to agree upon  
                                   peace?  
       33           count the cost -- will you be a disciple of Jesus  
 Christ? -- what does He expect? -- what were His instructions? --  
 what was His example? -- what obstacles did He face? -- what  
 obstacles will you face? --what help did He receive? -- do you  
 have access to that same help?

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### 3. DWELL ON THE POSITIVE

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Num. 13:26-33           the spies recognized some positive, but they  
dwelt on the negative  
      30           Caleb recognized the negative, but he dwelt on the  
                                  positive  
Rom. 8:18               recognize suffering -- compare to glory

- \* The pessimist complains about the wind; the optimist expects  
it to change; the realist adjusts the sails.
- \* I can't change the direction of the wind, but I can adjust my  
sails to always reach my destination.
- \* A child on a farm sees a plane fly overhead and dreams of a  
faraway place. A traveler on the plane sees the farm-  
house and dreams of home.
- \* In order to maintain a well-balanced perspective, the person  
who has a dog to worship him should also have a cat to  
ignore him.
- \* The world is full of people looking for spectacular happiness  
while they snub contentment.

2 Cor. 1:8-10           Paul recognized the negative ("our trouble",  
"pressed out of measure", "despaired even  
of life") -- Paul dwelt on the positive  
-- trust in God who raises the dead --  
delivered, does deliver, will deliver

2 Cor. 4:7-9           earthen vessel -- power of God  
2 Cor. 4:17           affliction -- light affliction compared to  
God's promises

      18           the things which are not seen are eternal  
Phil. 4:4           rejoice  
      5           gentleness  
      6           with thanksgiving let your requests be known  
      7           peace of God