

“WE CAN DO ALL THINGS THROUGH CHRIST!”

Philippians Chapter 4:8-23

I) CHRIST STRENGTHENS OUR “CAN DO” MIND (v8-9)

(v8-9) **“Meditate on these things”**: **THINK!** - Make these things the subjects of your thoughtful consideration, or carefully reflect on them.

THINK ON WHAT IS:

(1) **TRUE** - *Truth is found in God (2 Tim. 2:25), in Christ (Eph. 4:20, 21), in the Holy Spirit (John 16:13), and in God’s Word (John 17:17).* (Antonym - false, erroneous, contradictory, inaccurate.)

(2) **NOBLE** - *That which is worthy of respect; whatever is worthy adoration.* (Antonym - undignified, base, abject.)

(3) **JUST** - *This refers to what is right, to think in harmony with God’s divine standard of holiness.* (Antonym - one-sided, partial, inequitable, iniquitous.)

(4) **PURE** - *That which is morally clean and undefiled.* (Antonym - impure, filthy, dirty, foul.)

(5) **LOVELY** - *That are pleasing or amiable, whatever is kind or gracious.* (Antonym - hideous, horrible disgusting, repugnant.)

(6) **GOOD REPORT** - *That which is highly regarded or thought well of.* (Antonym - bad, false, deceptive, half truths (insurance))

(7) **VIRTUE** - *Moral excellence or goodness.* (Antonym - vice, sinfulness, evil.)

(8) **PRAISEWORTHY** - *That which is commendable.* (Antonym - worthless, foolish, garbage.)

Remember: **Rom 8:5-6** - *For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.*

(v9) Paul shares five principles of Christian discipleship: 1st - Paul **TAUGHT** they **LEARNED**; 2ND - Paul **SHARED** they **RECEIVED**; 3rd - Paul **SPOKE** they **LISTENED**; 4th - Paul **EXEMPLIFIED** (*saw in me*) the Christian **LIFE**; 5th - Paul gives the confident command **“THESE DO”** and the God of peace will be with you.

II) CHRIST STRENGTHENS OUR “CAN DO” HEART (v10-13)

(v10) Paul **REJOICES IN THE LORD GREATLY!**

(11-12) Paul has **LEARNED** to be **CONTENT** - That is satisfied, comfortable, pleased, gratified, sanguine, delighted, snug, elated.

(v13) Paul proclaims, **“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”** And so can you; in **Matthew 17:20-21** - Jesus said, *“for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.*

III) CHRIST STRENGTHENS OUR “CAN DO” CHARITY (v14-23)

(v14-19) Paul gives thanks to the believers in Philippi and complements their generosity. In the scriptures we find examples of giving: The nation of Israel gave so generously to the tabernacle in the wilderness, that they had to be told not to give anymore (Ex. 36:6-7); when Nehemiah came to rebuild Jerusalem the people rallied around the clarion call to sacrifice and build the walls in a record-breaking achievement. (Neh. 2:17-18; 4:6; 6:15-16); Jesus taught us about the wonderful life of sharing; he said, “it is more blessed to give than to receive,” investing in the eternal things of His Kingdom. (Acts 20:35)

(v20-23) Paul’s farewell and closing comments, **“The GRACE of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.”**

Conclusion: Let’s be “Can Do!” Christians: **In our MINDS!**

In our HEARTS!

In our CHARITY!

Let’s GO FOR GOD WITH JOY!

Memory verses: **Philippians 4:13 & 4:19**