

**“...but grow in the grace and  
knowledge of  
our Lord and Savior  
Jesus Christ.  
To Him be the glory,  
both now and to  
the day of eternity.  
Amen.”**

**II Peter 3:18**

# **Growing in Christ: The Goal...**

**We are to grow in Christ-likeness,  
being conformed to His character,  
bearing fruit and  
growing in good works**

# Factors in Growing in Christ:


- Salvation!
- Scripture: Meaningful encounters with the Word of God!, Col. 3:16
- Abide in Christ, John 15:1-16
- Discipline Yourself Toward Godliness, I Timothy 4.

## **I Timothy 4:7**

**“Discipline  
yourself  
toward  
godliness**

## **II Peter 1:3**

**“Seeing that His  
divine power  
has granted to  
us everything  
pertaining to life  
and  
godliness!”**



## Ken Boa:

“If we applied the same zeal in our walk with the Lord that we use in our sports and hobbies, many of us would be farther along the course.

It takes time and discipline to "run with endurance the race that is set before us," but this discipline must be set in a context of dependence upon the Spirit of Christ who indwells us and enables us to run in His victory.

# **Factors in Growing in Christ:**

- **Salvation!**
- **Scripture: Meaningful encounters with the Word of God!, Col. 3:16**
- **Abide in Christ, John 15:1-16**
- **Discipline Yourself Toward Godliness, I Timothy 4.**
- **Baptism!**

# Factors in Growing in Christ:

- “Latreia Living” ↔ “Worship-Service” Lifestyle
- Have Meaningful Encounters with One Another: Body-Life, Community!

# Growing Through “Mind-Control”



# “Mind Control” in Colossians...

- The Basis for it...
  - ✓ Grace, 1:2, 6
  - ✓ Growing, 1:9-14
  - ✓ Grounding, 2:6-7, 9-10
- The Commands of it, 3:1-4, 5-10,

## Colossians 3:5

“Therefore, consider your members to be dead concerning **the things that are on the earth:**

immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry.”

# “Mind Control” in Colossians...

- The Basis for it...
  - ✓ Grace, 1:2, 6
  - ✓ Growing, 1:9-14
  - ✓ Grounding, 2:6-7, 9-10
- The Commands of it, 3:1-4, 5-10, 12-17

# “Mind Control” in Philippians 4...

- Rejoice, 4.
- Be gentle, 5.
- Stop worrying! Pray!, 6.
- Gratitude, 6
- Receive His peace, 7
- Dwell on the right things!, 8

# “Mind Control” in II Corinthians...

- We must take every thought captive to the obedience of Christ, 10:5.

**MUCH of this demands that we  
start LISTENING TO WHAT WE  
ARE TELLING OURSELVES!  
WE MUST LISTEN TO  
WHAT WE ARE THINKING...  
TEST IT AGAINST  
THE WORD OF GOD...  
AND TAKE EVERY THOUGHT  
CAPTIVE TO THE OBEDIENCE  
OF CHRIST!!**

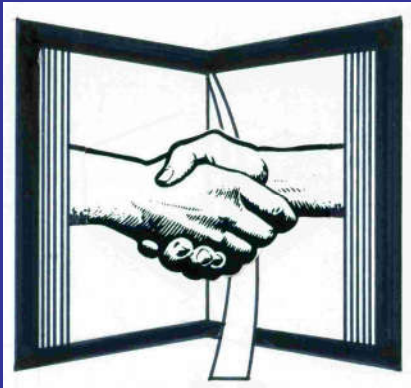
# FOR EXAMPLE...

**WRONG  
THOUGHTS:**

**OBEDIENT  
THOUGHTS:**

We are to take every thought  
captive  
to the obedience of Christ,  
Setting our minds  
on things above, and  
Dwelling on the things  
that are true, honorable, right,  
pure, lovely, etc.





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