

# LIVE BY THE SPIRIT

*Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit – GAL 5:25 (NIV)*

## **PT 10: Taking Every Thought Captive**

By Andrew Foo (25/9/16)

Scripture – 2 Cor 10:3-5 (NIV)

<sup>3</sup> *For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. <sup>4</sup> The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. <sup>5</sup> 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.*

- ➔ “Captive”
- To capture and conquer
  - To take control of
  - To subdue and bring under submission

(PPT image – “You have to take every thought captive”)

### **1. Test every thought**

- Jer 17:9 (GW)  
<sup>9</sup> *“The human mind is the most deceitful of all things. It is incurable. No one can understand how deceitful it is.*
- (PPT image) Don’t believe everything you think
- (PPT image) Question our thoughts

### **2. Guard the mind**

- Build spiritual defences
- Provb 15:14 (NLT)  
<sup>14</sup> *A wise person is hungry for knowledge, while the fool feeds on trash.*

- Practical steps – Phil 4:6-7 (NLT)

*<sup>6</sup> Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. <sup>7</sup> Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.*

### 3. Nourish the mind

(PPT image – “Your mind is a garden”)

- Be a learner
- Provb 18:15 (NLT)  
*<sup>15</sup> Intelligent people are always ready to learn. Their ears are open for knowledge.*
- Provb 10:14 (NIRV)  
*<sup>14</sup> Wise people store up knowledge. But the mouths of foolish people destroy them.*
- Hosea 4:6(NCV) – 5 levels of learning  
*<sup>6</sup> My people will be destroyed, because they have no knowledge. You have refused to learn, so I will refuse to let you be priests to me. You have forgotten the teachings of your God, so I will forget your children.*  
(PPT)
  - Knowledge
  - Wisdom
  - Conviction
  - Character
  - Skills