

PERSPECTIVE

What Do You Think?

Level of Biblical Learning:

God wants our actions, attitudes, thoughts, and words to be good.

Colossians 3:5-11

Parent Helps:

- Lead your child to play a game of “Think Fast!” Explain that you will say a word, and your child should quickly say the first thing he/she thinks. For example, you say: “Animal,” and your child might say: “Dog.” Play several times. Use words such as: animal, snack, toy, book, friend, church, Bible.
- Explain that the Bible teaches people to think and do good things.
- Read aloud Philippians 4:8. If your child is older, also refer to Colossians 3:5-11.

Discussion Questions:

Younger Kids:

1. What good things do you know about God?
2. What can you do when you think about not-so-good things?
3. What Bible verses or Bible stories do you like to think about?

Older Kids:

1. Why does God care about what you think?
2. What TV shows, videos, books, or music cause you to think good things? Which ones cause thoughts that do not honor God?
3. What good actions come from good thoughts? What wrong actions come from thoughts that do not honor God?

Apply:

- God knows what you think. (Psalm 94:11; 139:1-2)
- People who love and obey God should think differently than other people. (Romans 12:2; 2 Corinthians 5:17)
- Think about things that honor God. (2 Corinthians 10:5; Colossians 3:1-2)
- Wrong thoughts lead to wrong actions. (Matthew 15:18; Romans 8:5-7; Colossians 3:5-11)

Activity:

Help your child think good and “sweet” thoughts! Put an assortment of multicolored candies or snacks (such as M&Ms™, Skittles™, Smarties™, fruit snacks, or multicolored fish crackers) in a bowl. Lead your child to close his/her eyes, reach into the bowl, and select a candy/snack piece. Observe the color he/she chose and lead your child to name one good thing of the same color. (For example: the yellow sun, green grass, their favorite red shoes, and so on.) Challenge older kids to name good things about God that begin with the same letter as the color he/she chose. (For example, if your child chose the color brown, he/she might say: “God gave us the Bible.” If he/she chose the color red, he/she might say: “God is always right.”) Remind your child that God wants people to think good things.

Pray Together:

- Thank God for creating you with a mind to think and love Him.
- Ask God to help you think about things that honor Him.
- Ask God to help your family encourage others with good words and actions.