

MEN of the BANNER

BELIEVE → BEHAVE → EMOTION

BELIEVE → BEHAVE → EMOTION...if we believe anything other than, “The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it, the world and all who live in it” we will find ourselves in the same position as Jonah (Psalm 24:1). We must understand that our brothers and sisters in Christ are children of God as well as each one of us. We are also to understand that non-believers deserve our compassion. Remember that they have been blinded by the god of this age (2 Corinthians 4:4). And what business is it of ours to judge those outside the Church (1 Corinthians 5:12).

2 Corinthians 10:5 says, “Take every thought captive to make it obedient to Christ.” We went over the pattern of anger last week, and as soon as we find ourselves in a state of indignance we must take our thoughts captive and choose to use our bodies as instruments of righteousness. This will take practice, discipline and community. We must ask for forgiveness if we sin in our anger. This act of humility will begin to teach us how often we wreak havoc on our own testimony and begin to improve our response time to wayward emotions. Always remember that your emotions can lie, and that love can cover over a multitude of sins. (1 Peter 4:8).

WALK IN THE SPIRIT: Legalism and unforgiveness can lead to various states of anger. God wants all of you and we must trust him in our humility. God will take care of all things for us and work out situations if we just believe that he has our best interest in mind (Rom 8:28). Remember that we are to speak the truth in love, but that is an art. That is to say that we must have compassion when speaking to someone who has offended us in some way. Always speak to the behavior and never to a person’s character, despite what you may think inside. And if you attack someone’s character in your heart, be forewarned, because out of the overflow of a man’s heart the mouth speaks (Matthew 12:34). Also remember that there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus (Romans 8:1). Grace, mercy, forgiveness these are the things taught by the Spirit. Hosea 6:6 tells us “For I desire mercy, not sacrifice, and acknowledgement of God rather than burnt offerings.”

SATAN’S SEEDS VERSES YOUR THOUGHTS: 1 Corinthians 2:16 says we have the mind of Christ. Malicious thoughts are not yours. They are either of Satan or a lie that you are believing. Do not let his schemes make you think you are some sort of monster. He is a very clever deceiver, and as he deceived Peter and Jesus rebuked Satan, so you must rebuke those attempts to influence your mind. We must close every door, keep him out and let nothing but the light of God into our bodies and minds (Luke 11: 33-36).