



How things fit together in the Kingdom

Our Imagination

Back in the 1980s, the local Pentecostal group we were in was promoting the use of our imagination like this: Put a drawing of a good heart on the fridge and every time you looked at it, confess that you have a perfect heart. We regarded this as unspiritual, and was the part of the final decision to exit from the organisation.

Later on, early in our house church days, the use of our imagination came up again. One of our members convinced us that our heart is deceitful and evil¹, so we shouldn't use our imagination.ⁱ As a consequence of their statement and a following discussion, we stopped using our imagination in any spiritual experience.

What we did was really a legalistic and religious knee-jerk reaction, not a Spirit-led decision. Sadly, we made many of those types of immature choices back then. Subsequently, we've discovered that any decision or judgement based purely on one verse of scripture is dangerous. That's because it misses out on the verse's context within the text that it came from, as well as the broader concepts of the NT.

We now know that decisions need to be made in conjunction with the Spirit, because sons (that's us) are to be led by the Spirit.ⁱⁱ That means we use the Spirit to test everything whenever he doesn't give us instructions for the making of a decision. That's our safeguard.

On top of that, we need to check ourselves out.ⁱⁱⁱ That's because spirits of darkness (demons) influence (or try to influence) everything we do or say.^{iv} Therefore, we need to check/test^v the origin of our thoughts at all times. These spirits even influence prophecy, which is why we have false prophets.^{vi}

For example: How many of the doctrines we adhere to actually originate from demonic spirits?^{vii} We can't believe everything we've been taught is true and accurate. That's because we're in a spiritual war^{viii} with an evil opponent who wants to pervert us so we don't accomplish the expansion of the Kingdom so that it fills the whole Earth.^{ix} Even asking yourself, "Am I really a son of God or have I been tricked by a spirit?" is worth investigating.^x

So, what do we do with our imagination, knowing that not everything in our mind is righteous and pure? The first step is to bring every thought into alignment with our King, so we obey when he tells us.^{xi} Not hearing him talk to us is why the legalistic reaction is to treat our imagination as always evil, just to be safe.

Now, remember, all the good inventions and technologies that have been devised throughout history have come from people's minds – from their imagination. The evidence, therefore, is that our imagination isn't always evil. For example: The Wright brothers imagined being able to fly like a bird, so they experimented and were the first to fly an aircraft (not a balloon) in 1903.² The Australian pharmacologist, Howard Florey, imagined being able to cure infections quickly, which led him to discover penicillin in the 1940s.³

1 – 'desperately wicked' (NKJV) literally means '*incurably sick*' [*'exceedingly perverse and corrupt and severely, mortally sick'* (AMP)]
classic.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Jeremiah+17:9&version=NKJV#en-NKJV-19367

2 – en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wright_brothers

3 – en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Howard_Florey

What's the issue with imagination for sons? It's that our base nature ('flesh'), soul and attitudes have a great bearing on our imaginings,^{xii} and these need to be controlled. We must bring these under the domination of our spirit,^{xiii} but that's very, very hard to do without training. That's the mature method, but for those who are still maturing, the best method is to ask the Spirit to check everything you think.

How do we allow the Spirit to check everything? Well, it works like this:

- **When you've thought of something to do or say, stop before you do it and check your spirit.** Holy Spirit will talk to your spirit about the righteousness of your thought. If you're sensitive enough, you'll feel a check in your spirit if it's not OK. That is, your spirit won't feel right about it.

This technique also requires practise, but if you don't start to train in using it, you'll remain someone who is easily controlled by our enemy.

On the other hand, my experience over the past few years about my imagination has actually changed. As I've become closer to Father in my intimate relationship with him and have matured more as he's trained me, I've come to an understanding of the importance of my imagination. That may seem strange and non-spiritual, but that's not what I've discovered. It all started with a change in my understanding of Father's connection with those outside of the Kingdom which caused me to rethink his communication with them and the way he does it. I originally believed (erroneously) that Father only speaks to his sons – how wrong I've been. I now know that he's communicating with every person on the planet, but not everyone hears, listens or pays attention. One of the key methods he uses to communicate is using their thoughts and imagination. All the wonderful, beneficial inventions and discoveries have come from his deposits in people, even when they didn't know the origin of the thought(s). [*More on this another time.*]

Many times Father drops thoughts into my mind or allows me to imagine something I need to do to solve a problem. I'm not trying to use my mind to communicate, its just that that's been the way he's given me countless inspirations so I knew what to do in a situation I was facing. Hearing with my spirit is the most important communication I use, but I can see that as my mind is renewed, he can use it. After all, he gave us a mind in the first place, so it's not evil. It's only how we use our mind and imagination, and who we allow to use it, that turns it into a source for evil.^{xiv}

For a great, practical teaching session on our imagination, have a listen to Mike Parsons explaining it from what he's learnt from his talks with Father:

- **Mike Parsons "Mystic Mentoring Thursday 10th June 2021" [1:05-11:57]**
www.youtube.com/watch?v=iPH_ONucCSI

Laurence

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References are on the next page

REFERENCES

- i – Jeremiah 17:9
- ii – Romans 8:14
- iii – 2 Corinthians 13:5
- iv – e.g. 1 Timothy 4:1
- v – 1 Thessalonians 5:21
- vi – 1 John 4:1
- vii – 1 Timothy 4:1
- viii – 2 Corinthians 10:4; 1 Timothy 1:18; 2 Timothy 2:4
- ix – Daniel 2:34-35
- x – 2 Corinthians 13:5
- xi – 2 Corinthians 10:5
- xii – Psalm 73:7; Proverbs 6:18; Isaiah 65:2
- xiii – 1 Corinthians 9:27
- xiv – Psalm 73:7 (ISV); Jeremiah 23:16 (NET); Romans 1:21 (KJV); 2 Corinthians 10:5 (KJV)