

Cultural ThinkHoles: Low Expectations

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Scripture

Philippians 4:8-9

⁸“Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things.”

⁹The things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

Engage

ThinkHoles are much like Sinkholes in that they 1) pull in everything around them, 2) left unattended they only get worse, 3) their root problem is a weak foundation or unstable material, and 4) can implode without warning. What are the ThinkHoles in your life? What are ways we can take action to correct those ThinkHoles?

Discuss

1. Truth is what is real, the reality, not what someone says is real. Discuss a time when you thought you were hearing the truth but it turned out not to be. How did it make you feel. Did you lose respect for the person you heard it from?
2. We tend to put all kind of untruths in our mind by what we watch or listen to. What are some of the things you are putting in your mind? What would it take to correct that and put more truth in your mind?
3. Being honorable means being worthy of respect and noble. Discuss a time when you witnessed an honorable act? How did it make you feel? What were your thoughts about the person who did the honorable thing?
4. Discuss a time when you had an opportunity to do the honorable thing. Did you do the honorable thing or choose a different route? What was the end result of your decision?
5. What one generation allows in moderation the next will accept in excess. Looking at our past discuss what was allowed in the 1960s, 70s, 80s, 90s and 2000s and how those decades affected the next to end in the excess that we have now.

Challenge

The expectations of our culture are not the standards by which Christians are called to live. What are the standards you live by? Who are your role models and how do you base your way of living? Do they need a change? What are some practical ways we change our standards and start living by God's standards?

Other Passages Cited

Philippians 3:2-3

Philippians 4:2

Philippians 2:5

Colossians 2:6

1 Corinthians 15:3-5

Philippians 4:5