



Bible Verses: Mark 12:18-27, Rom. 12:1-2, Col. 3:2-5

Resources:

King, Warrior, Magician, Lover (Authors-Robert Moore & Douglas Gillette)

Knowing God (J.I. Packer)

The Knowledge of the Holy (A.W. Tozer)

Desiring God (John Piper)

Podcast 09: Wholehearted: Mind

Luke 10:27 reads, “*You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.*” This week’s podcast focuses on loving God with your mind. That seems like an odd concept, but it is a command in scripture. If we are to become the men God intended us to be, we must love Him with every area of our mind. But what does it mean to love God with your mind? How do we do that?

To start, we need to understand what loving God with our mind should lead to. What will we see in our lives if we love God with our mind? An intellectual love for God should never stay just head knowledge, but should bleed into our emotions (soul) and how we feel about God. John Piper (2008) says, “*If a person doesn't move from intellectual awareness of God, and right thinking about God to an emotional embrace of God, he hasn't loved God with his mind. The mind has not yet loved until it hands off its thoughts to the emotions, where they're embraced. And then, the mind and the heart are working in what feels like such harmony, and you experience it as both intellectual and affectional love for God.*”

Our goal is to have right thinking about God and who He is and what He promises us so that we know how to live. Genesis 2 makes it clear we are made in the image of God, which means that in order to know who we are as men we need to know who God is. A right knowledge of our God will guide us in life and help us know how to respond to life’s many ups and downs. Sometimes a knowledge of who God is may be all we have to hang onto when the storms of life toss our faith and cause our hearts to become numb to who He says He is.

—Luke Burgett

Talk about it:

- What do you think it means to love God with your mind?
- From this podcast, what are two primary ways to love God with your mind?

Make it personal:

- Do you have a Paul (mentor), Barnabas (encourager), and Timothy (disciple) in your life?
- What books, if any, have helped you grow in your understanding of who God is?

Accept the Challenge:

- Consider picking up a book that will challenge how you think about God. There are some ideas listed above. A more complete list of book ideas can be found on the flatirons church website.
- Take an inventory of the areas of your life (work, family, health, rest) and identify people that you know who you admire in one or more of these areas and then seek out a conversation with them.

Envision the future:

- If you began regularly challenging your mind to think rightly about who God is and surrounding yourself with men you admire, how could your life as a man benefit?