

CRITICAL THINKER | 6-5-16

REFLECT & DISCUSS

We hear stories in many forms every day. News, music, movies, social media, billboards, and people around us share stories with us whether we are aware of them or not. We don't realize how much these stories shape what we believe and how we act. What was the last great story you heard? What impacted you about that story? Why are stories so powerful?

READ: *Proverbs 14:15*

Why is it dangerous to believe anything? Why is it wise to think about what you believe before you believe it? Critical thinking means to decide what to believe about the stories we are told. On a scale of 1 to 10 with 1 being never, and 10 being always, how often do you consume stories without thinking about them? What step can you take to lower your number? Why is it important to become a critical thinker about the media we consume?

READ: *1 Corinthians 2:12-13*

What is the difference between seeing things from a worldly point of view versus a spiritual point of view? What happens when a worldly point of view overshadows a spiritual point of view? How do we apply spiritual wisdom to the media we consume? Do you tend to think of media as separate from your spiritual life or a part of it? Why?

READ: *1 Corinthians 2:14-16*

How do you discern between good and evil? What causes you to say no to consuming some media and yes to consuming other media? Discuss this statement: "*We develop the mind of Christ as we become critical thinkers.*" What cost do we pay if we do not become critical thinkers? How can we mature as Christians as we develop the mind of Christ?

CHALLENGE

Practice filtering the media you consume this week:

- **RECEIVE** clear truths that line up with Scripture
- **REDEEM** concepts and ideas that reveal truth
- **REJECT** what conflicts with the mind of Christ

PRAYER

Holy Spirit, I want to operate out of the mind of Christ. Teach me to discern the difference between good and evil so that I can honor the Father in everything I do, especially the media I consume. I want to become a critical thinker by honoring you in everything I do.

Written by John Grandy, Dalton Campus Pastor