**FOCUS ON THE TRUE, PURE, AND THE LOVELY**

**4-23-16, DR. FILLMER HEVENER, PRESENTED AT GUTHRIE MEM. CHAPEL**

**Philippians 4:8:
"Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable--if anything is excellent or praiseworthy--think about such things."**

**A. FOCUS- DEEP CONCENTRATION, FULL ATTENTION, ATTEMPT TO MAKE CLEAR, TO UNDERSTAND, FULL DEDICATION TO.
1. Stay Focused on Only Excellent things.**

**2. WE TEND TO BE INFLUENCED BY THOSE IDEAS ON WHICH WE FOCUS.**

 **A. WE CAN CONTROL OUR THOUGHTS; WE ARE NOT VICTIMS OF CHANCE AND CHANCE THOUGHTS.**

**2.5. SAMUEL WAS A PROPHET AND THE LAST OF THE JUDGES.**

**3. 1 SAM. 15: 1-26- GOD REJECTS SAUL FOR HIS DISOBEDIENCE AND ARROGANCE. (PAGE 490).**

**(THE AMALAKITES ATTACKED ISRAEL WHEN THEY WERE LEAVING EGYPT FOR CANAAN.)**

**4. MAN LOOKS ON OUTWARD APPEARANCE, BUT GOD LOOKS ON THE HEART (1 SAMUEL 16.)**

**5. (1 SAM., 16:7- “MAN LOOKS ON OUTWARD APPEARANCE, BUT GOD LOOKS ON THE HEART.”)**

 **A. STUDY CHAPTER 16:1-13, PAGE 492.)**

**6. TODAY, DO WE PAY MORE ATTENTION TO OUR OUTWARD APPEARANCE THAN WE DO TO OUR INNER CONDITION?**

 **A. EXAMPLE OF EMPHASIS ON OUTER BEAUTY IN OUR CULTURE:**

 **ECONOMIC COSTS:**

**The burden of unattainable beauty has far-reaching implications for women’s**

**economic well-being. Not only are women in the United States spending**

**much of their money on cosmetic products – a total of $7 billion spent per**

**year on cosmetics1 – but they are now taking increasingly drastic measures**

**to alter their appearances through surgical means. Money spent on cosmetic**

**surgery and non-surgical aesthetic procedures is increasing drastically among**

**all women, including younger women and women of color. And the economic**

**implications reach further, even into the workplace, where research shows**

**that women who don’t adhere to particular standards of beauty are impacted**

**professionally and financially.**

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE COST OF OUTER BEAUTY:**

**created by Erika Rawes//Data Source: The Beauty Company**

## 7. Cosmetics products:

**They’ve become part our daily routine and many of us feel as though we can’t live without them: Cosmetics and hair products are luxuries that place a serious dent in our wallets. Drugs stores, grocery stores, big box stores, and department stores alike stock their shelves with cosmetics products. If you go into a store like Walgreens, you have around a dozen different cosmetics brands to choose from, as the drugstore generally has around 25,000 beauty units in stock,** [**according to the Beauty Company**](http://www.thebeautycompany.co/downloads/Beyer_BeautyNumbers.pdf)**.**

**The Beauty Company also reports that between the ages of 16 and 65, a typical women shops for cosmetics at least five times each year, spending around $43 on a typical trip. This means, that over the course of a year, she’s spending around $215. This money could have bought a new iPhone (with a contract) or paid for a large chunk of a car insurance bill perhaps. Over a lifetime, a typical women spends $15,000 on makeup products. If that $215 went into a standard retirement plan (like a traditional IRA), instead of into makeup),** [**it would yield around $100,000 at age 70**](http://www.bankrate.com/calculators/retirement/traditional-ira-plan-calculator.aspx)**.**

**8. HOW DO WE BEAUTIFY THE INNER PERSON” Philippians 4:8:
"Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable--if anything is excellent or praiseworthy--think about such things."**

**9. CHRIST IS OUR MODEL:** [**Acts 10:37-38**](http://bible.knowing-jesus.com/Acts/10/37)

**You yourselves know the thing which took place throughout all Judea, starting from Galilee, after the baptism which John proclaimed. "You know of Jesus of Nazareth, how God anointed Him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and how He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.**

**Therefore, we:**

**A. SPEND MORE TIME IN SEARCHING FOR TRUTH. BIBLE STUDY.**

**B. MORE TIME IN CONVERSATION WITH FELLOW-BELIEVERS & OTHERS CONCERNING LIFE’S BASIC ISSUES.**

**C. MORE TIME IN COMMUNITY SERVICE.**

**D. MORE TIME WITNESSING OF CHRIST TO OTHERS.**

**D.1- MORE TIME ENCOURAGING THE DESPONDENT AND DISCOURAGED.**

**E. MORE TIME ON OUR KNEES PLEADING TO BE FILLED WITH GOD’S HOLY SPIRIT. (PRAY)**