**Thinking About Other Things**

**(Patience; Thoughtfulness)**

What you are determines the world in which you live, so as you change, your world changes also. Norman Vincent Peale

Philippians 4:8 Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

I love to have peace in my life. I invested in self-help books and programs and met with others to bring peace. But these things only brought temporary peace to me because what I was investing in was not perfected.

# To achieve perfect peace, I needed to start with trusting God. I say I trust God, but I often felt like I must do something in the natural because I did not understand how God worked in the supernatural. Here is my saying, “if Tye is thinking it, then God is not!” In Isaiah 55:8-9, God teaches us that our thoughts and ways are not His. God says, "As high as the heavens are above the earth, so are My ways higher than yours." This makes knowing the essence of who God is very hard for us.

However, God has given me instructions on achieving perfect peace in Him. He told me to always keep my mind on Him. One would have thought that if I trusted him, I could keep my mind on Him (Isaiah 26:3). He also gave me some specific things to place in my mind and focus on. I needed to think about ethical and dishonest, transparent and lucid, beautiful, praiseworthy and admirable, and what is virtuous and pure. But my mind was always on improper, questionable, unreasonable, disgusting, wrong and shameful, and wicked and sinful things. This is quite a task God has required me when I am inundated with thoughts of failure, dishonesty, irresponsibility, homeliness, and imperfection.

**Prayer:** Lord Jesus, we pray for excellence in You. So, please help us be trustworthy and honorable. Whether others are in our presence or not, we will respect them. Please help us be pure, wholesome, and lovely. Use us to be peace bearers. Let us praise You and keep our mind, soul, spirit, and heart centered on You.