## Our Pet "thoughts" How to get them house trained

by; April Snook

Oh it seems like only yesterday that our pet was just a pup. Although they seem so cute, cuddly and completely harmless... leave them unattended just for a moment and it's "BAD DOG! BAD DOG!!" Out goes



the dog and out comes the cleaner. It takes time to train a pet, the whole exhausting routine. The pet eats, the pet drinks... now watch for the signs... that's right and out, out, out... goes the dog before any harm is done. Now sure this takes time and a lot of effort on our part. Really it's more about training us at first than them... Right!?

We should really treat our thoughts like pets. Sure they start off small, cute and comforting... especially when it's the thoughts of "what I should have said", or "they're just jealous", but left unattended... you'll turn around and have "POOR ME!" All over your mind! And what does "poor me" start with? POO! Yes, thoughts left unattended will leave your mind and emotions coved in POO! Now the sure sign of an immature pet is he thinks he is running the show. And a sure sign of an immature owner... he never challenges that thought. Our mind would like to run the show and put whatever thoughts it wants to through our head, affecting our self and others with out care. However that is a sign of an untrained mind.

**2 Corinthians 10:5** "Cast down arguments (have you argued with yourself lately?) And every high thing (thoughts, emotions, actions) that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every **thought** into captivity (cage that dog!) to the obedience of Christ. (vrs.6) being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled.

That's right you become very aware of your thoughts. I was cleaning my table the other day after lunch. I suddenly notice I had been arguing with my self the whole time. You know...things that were said to me and what I wanted to say to them, so on and so on. I didn't even realize it till the table and the replay of the argument were almost finished! I realized my mind was acting up, "HEY! Stop that right now!" I said out loud. And for the first time I could literally feel a small crack, a division between my spirit man (the real me) and my flesh. At that point I saw my flesh, my mind, will and emotions like a pet. Given to me for enjoyment but left unattended, untrained and undisciplined was like a mad dog with a bad owner.

Now, it's all about who is the boss! Watch for the signs of the flesh; those bad thoughts, arguments, the "poor me" feelings and take them captive. Throw them out in the name of Jesus. Sure accidents will happen and you bring out the cleaner (repentance and words of blessing) the more diligent you are in training and disciplining your thoughts the better pets they will be.