

CLOSING THE GATE ON NEGATIVE THOUGHTS

"Being in freedom to think and to will evil while also learning spiritual truths, helps a person learn how to guard or shut the door against these evils."
(*Divine Providence* 281:3)

Introduction

The Lord knows that we need freedom to think and even to want to do what is wrong while we are learning truth. We don't start out loving to be good all the time. Truths help us distinguish between right and wrong. They help us see which thoughts should be turned away.

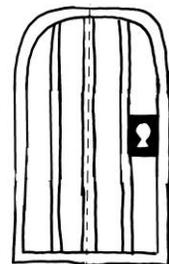
Here is a fold up project with a gate that can close on negative feelings and thoughts and "lock them up" as you learn truths from the Lord's Word.

Printing this Project

NOTE: This project requires a two-sided pattern. You can send one piece of paper through the printer twice—printing one page on one side and the next page on the other side. OR print out both pages and use a photocopier to make a two-sided copy. (A third option is to print the first page of the project and assemble it, then draw the rest of the gate where it is missing.)

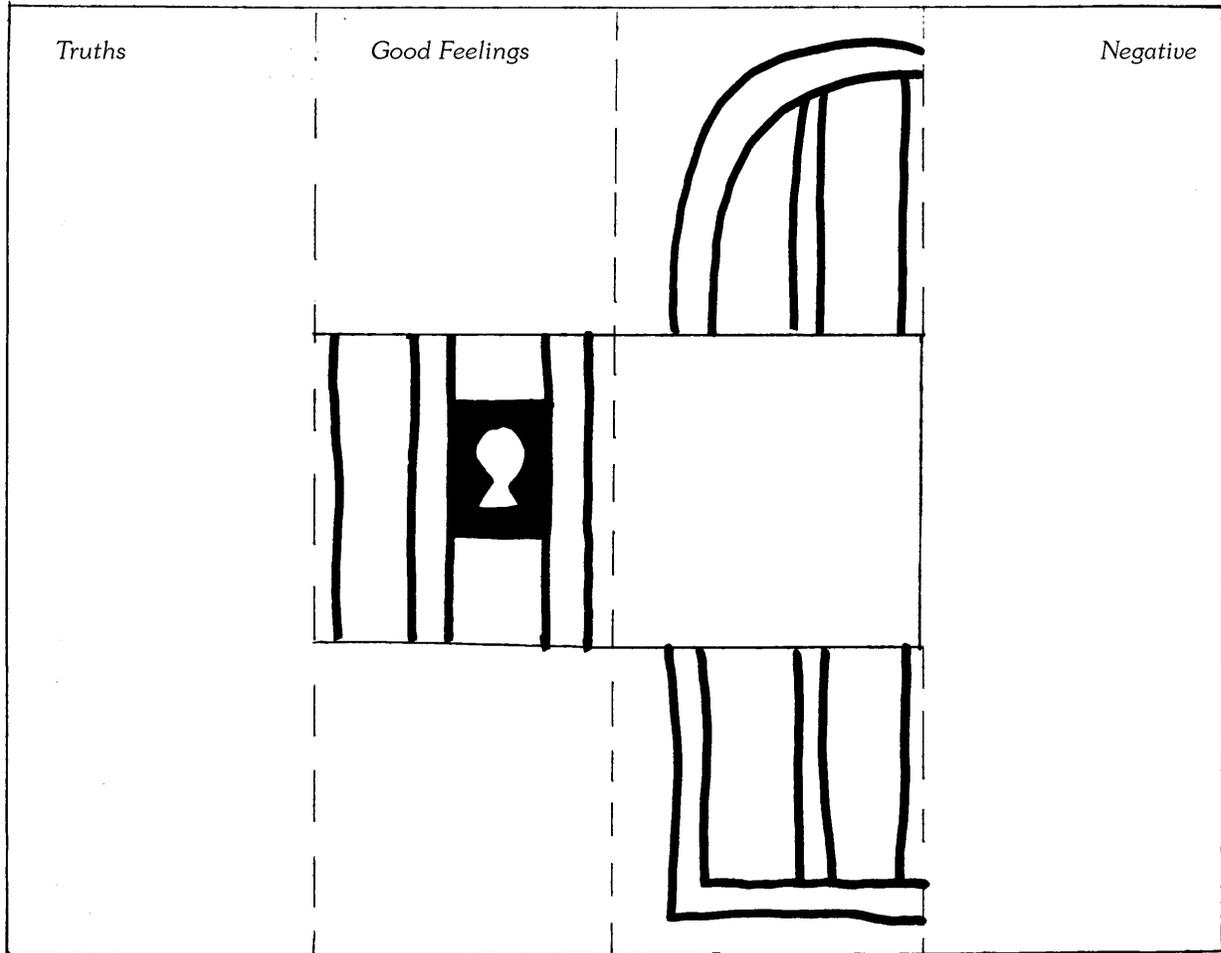
Manipulating this Project

Flip the cut out piece over so that you are looking at the closed gate. To get to the beginning stage fold the two sides backwards and carefully open up the center fold. A new side will appear. Flex in this fashion again.



At this point you should have a sheet with the words "Negative Thoughts" across the top. You may fill in this side to indicate negative thoughts, on which you would like to close the gate. Flex back in the other direction and you will return to another "Negative Thoughts" page, which you can fill up with some thoughts and feelings that sometimes attack you. Flex back to slam the gate on those negative thoughts. On the back of the Gate you can fill in some "Truths and Good Feelings from the Lord" which help you to close out the negative thoughts.

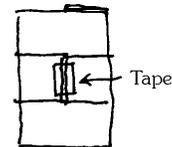
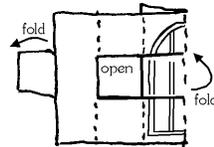
Closing the Gate on Negative Thoughts



Cut on all solid lines, (except "gate" lines!) Fold back and forth on dotted lines.

To set up Flexible Gate:

- With front facing you – the side with keyhole)
- Fold center flap back. Fold right column back:
(You should now see half of a gate on the right side of the sheet)
- Fold center flap forward over the front.
- Fold the right column back a second time.
(You should have a blank sheet facing front with the word "Truths" on the left and "Good Feelings" on the right.)
- Tape flap onto square showing through opening:



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Evil Thoughts

Truths

