

Some Brief Thoughts On Epictetus's Enchiridion, Ch. 51

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2023-07-23

1 Thoughts

You can't claim to want to grow or learn or improve yourself if you don't live up to the knowledge and principles you do know. You may always in future grow and adapt your ideas, but self-improvement and progress rely firstly on dedication and self-discipline, on action. If you don't do what you know is right or what you know will help you to become more like the person you claim you want to become, you are waiting for some secret knowledge that will never come. Do the best thing you know how to do in every time and circumstance, then you will be who you want to be, only perhaps lacking a bit of knowledge or experience, which is a small thing. Failing to do what you know is right is the true flaw, ignorance is neither the biggest flaw nor the biggest hurdle to bettering yourself.