

Even Stranger Things Part Three

Winning The Invisible Battle

Introduction

Read: Ephesians 6:10-18

1. Strange things happen around us more often than we think! Jesus healed those who were sick, and set free those who were troubled in life.
2. Throughout the Bible, Jesus taught that we are in a battle against an invisible, but very real, enemy.
3. We are all in a spiritual battle, and there is an enemy that wants to discourage us and mess up our lives.
4. Jesus won the victory for us in this battle when He died on the cross and rose again!
5. In the Bible passage we read, the author tells us we have an armour we can put on to walk in Jesus' victory.
6. We have this victory available to us today, but we need to apply it in our lives.
7. In today's lesson, we will talk about the different ways we can win this invisible battle in our lives!

I. Stand In Truth And Righteousness

A. Living in truth and righteousness enables us to be confident regardless of any problems the enemy may bring against us (v14).

B. We can be confident before God and those around us when we choose not to lie.

C. To live in truth also means that we do exactly what we say we will do!
People can trust us when they can count on us to do what we say we will.

D. Stand in righteousness as well by doing what the Bible teaches us to do.

The righteous man will flourish like the palm tree, He will grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

- Psalm 92:12 (NASB)

II. Defend Ourselves With Faith

A. Our faith is likened to a shield we can use against fears and uncertainties that we face (v16).

B. Having faith in God's promises when we face discouragement helps us to continue trusting God despite problems we face.

C. Reminding ourselves of God's character also helps us to keep trusting Him!
God never changes, so we can trust in His character to stay the same.

Discuss!

Connect Group Leader to facilitate sharing with the Connect Group members.

- *Share some verses that help you to keep trusting God!
Isaiah 41:10, Jeremiah 29:11, Joshua 1:9*
- *What are some characteristics of God that help you to keep trusting Him too?
His faithfulness, love, patience, mercy, etc.*

D. Declare what we believe God for over the obstacles and problems we face!

III. Advance With God's Word And Prayer

A. God's word and prayer are the weapons we use to overcome the spiritual enemy we face (v17-18).

B. Dedicate time each day to read God's word in order to grow in our knowledge of His promises for us to overcome.

C. When we pray, have faith that God hears us and will answer us according to His purposes (1 John 5:14-15).

D. Keep praying for the breakthroughs we want to see in the lives of those around us!

"Keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you."

- Matthew 7:7

Conclusion

1. We are all in an invisible battle against a spiritual enemy.
2. Taking up the armour God has provided for us helps us to be prepared to fight in this battle.
3. Through the weapons given to us, we can defend our faith and advance God's plans!

Prayer Points:

- Commit to living in truth and righteousness.
- Ask God for faith to defend ourselves against the enemy's strategies.
- Ask for tenacity and wisdom to pray and advance God's kingdom!

**Give opportunities for visitors to receive Christ and members to re-dedicate their lives to Jesus.*