

FACING THE BATTLE OF CHALLENGES & WINNING THE WAR!

MID WEEK MINISTRY OF INSTRUCTION
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Introduction

- ⦿ All of us face challenges in life
- ⦿ Not all of us handle challenges well
- ⦿ The challenges are not a problem...facing them can be without the help of God
- ⦿ Good news, we can face challenges & win

Forms of Challenge

- ◎ Challenges come in many forms
 - Demonic
 - Human
 - Carnal
 - Spiritual
 - Call
 - Vocation

Battlefield

◎ Mind

- **Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is -- his good, pleasing and perfect will (Romans 12:2)**
- **You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds (Ephesians 4:22-23).**

Battlefield Continued

⦿ Body

- I Corinthians 6:19-20
 - Body is a Temple
- I Timothy 4:8
 - Godliness is more profitable than exercise (doesn't say not to exercise!)

Battlefield Continued

◎ Spirit

- Ecclesiastes 12:7
 - Spirit in us returns to God

◎ I Corinthians 15:45

- 1st Adam's body was infused with the spirit and created a soul and life.....2nd Adam is the one that quickens the Spirit to live eternally

The Battle of Fear

- ⦿ Challenge of fear can be paralyzing
 - Some fear failure
 - Some fear success
- ⦿ Face Fear with Confidence
 - Luke 12:32
 - John 14:27
- ⦿ Fear is a Spirit
 - 2 Timothy 1:7, 1 John 4:18, Romans 8:15

Facing Enemies and Winning

- ⦿ Enemies can raise up...but leave abruptly
 - Deuteronomy 28:7
 - II Kings 6:8-22 Problem with miracles during fear from man's perspective
 - II Kings 7:3-9 Faced their fear with affliction
 - Romans 12:20 hors d'oeuvres before the banquet

Facing Revenge & Winning

- ⦿ Difficult to be punked and not want retaliation
 - Revenge is on God's resume
 - Deuteronomy 32:35
- ⦿ Be careful of being a "Con Artist"
 - I Thessalonians 4:6

Facing Persecution and Winning

- ⦿ We all have faced persecution
 - Being a Christian doesn't exempt you from it
 - Matthew 5:10-12
- ⦿ When you are living right and doing something for God, you will be criticized by three types of people:
 - Those who are jealous
 - Those who are ill-informed
 - Those who are influenced by or filled with evil contamination (need a vaccine against them)

The Challenge of Temptation

- ⦿ The tempter is out to get you, not Halloween goblins, zombies, and plastic masks!
 - Matthew 26:41, Luke 22:40
 - Take the way out!
 - I Corinthians 10:13
- ⦿ Temptations either tests your ability to say no, or it tests your conscience to promptly repent

Winning the War on Depression

⦿ Prescriptions

- II Thessalonians 2:2
- Psalms 37:24



⦿ Exercise and walk through Romans

- Romans 8:28, Romans 8:18, Romans 8:38-39
- Christian is like a teabag, he/she is not worth much until they have been through some hot water!

Facing Anxiety & Winning

⦿ Matthew 6:25-34

⦿ James 1:2-3

