# TWINNING THE Uniseen Battles

'For although we live in the natural realm, we don't wage a military campaign employing human weapons, using manipulation to achieve our aims. Instead, our spiritual weapons are energized with divine power to effectively dismantle the defenses behind which people hide.' 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 (TPT)

Life is full of battles. Some of us are currently in one right now, others just entering and some are ending. Jesus Himself told us that we would have many things to contend with on this side of eternity, so this shouldn't surprise us. Thankfully He didn't leave us without hope. By winning the victory over the enemy and the kingdom of darkness, Jesus positioned us to always war from a position of having the upper hand. He also gave us several strategies for ensuring consistent victory.

This series we will go through 6 strategies, using 2 Corinthians 10:3-6 as our anchor scripture. Our prayer is that as we go through the series, the Holy Spirit will strengthen us and equip us to live a life of total victory

# **Military Mindset**

'For although we live in the natural realm, we don't wage a military campaign employing human weapons, using manipulation to achieve our aims.' 2 Corinthians 10:3 (TPT)

The danger with fighting unseen forces is we can't see what we're fighting with our natural eyes, even though the outcome of our victory or defeat will play out in the natural. Which is why our first reaction tends to be in the natural. But when we see a consistent pattern emerging then it stands to reason that there may be an unseen intelligence sponsoring what we're experiencing. Paul connected living in the natural realm with waging a military campaign because the truth is we're always in a battle. The intensity may vary at different seasons, but the battle is ongoing. Not knowing this gives the enemy an advantage over us because it leaves us unprepared.

"An attacker advances against you, Nineveh. Guard the fortress, watch the road, brace yourselves, marshal all your strength!" Nahum 2:1

This is why Paul advises that we don't just recognise the battle but also take the posture of establishing a military campaign against the enemy. Think of a military campaign as the big picture plan in warfare — not just one battle, but a sequence of battles, maneuvers, and actions all aimed at a common goal. For us as believers, the goal is to consistently enforce the victory Jesus already won for us.

"Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour." 1 Peter 5:8

A state of spiritual alertness moves us from reacting to whatever life throws at us, to taking an "offensive" stance where we proactively set the boundaries of what we will/will not accept. It involves us being aware of our spiritual arsenal which includes our access to the ministry of angels (Heb 1:14) and revelation of who we are (Ps 82:6) and what Jesus paid for on the cross.

**Prayer:** Lord thank You for opening my eyes to the reality that I'm in an ongoing battle. Help me to stay alert so I don't end up reacting to what life throws at me. Grant me a revelation of all that Jesus secured for me on the cross so I don't cede any territory to the enemy.

### **Supernatural Strength**

'Instead, our spiritual weapons are energized with divine power...' 2 Corinthians 10:4 (TPT)

One of the enemy's tactics is to try and weary believers similar to how water erodes rocks - slowly but consistently wearing it out over time. Sometimes we get so busy with legitimate issues of life that our walk with God slowly but consistently starts taking a back seat. The busyness may not even be the result of trials, but an outcome of the things we asked God for. The business/career is doing well, family is growing, expansion projects require more attention, etc. all of which are good. The battle then isn't coming out of a fiery trial but navigating the responsibilities that come with growth. This may not appear to be an issue on the face of it, but anything that pulls us away from getting closer to God is a battle to be fought and won.

"I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit." Ephesians 3:16

God recognises that fatigue is a reality some of us experience and He has resources available to us to strengthen us from within. This is important because once our bodies are constantly tired, it's just a matter of time before we start losing inner strength. But if we are energised from within, our bodies will leverage this strength.

"But those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint." Isaiah 40:31

As someone said, if you have an hour to chop down a tree, spend at least 30 minutes sharpening your axe. It may seem counterintuitive intuitive to pause when there's so much to do, but we need to pause and connect with God exactly because there's so much to do. The strength we receive isn't limited to our physical bodies. We receive wisdom to navigate the day and issues of life, direction so we don't waste time in trial and error, protection from falling into the traps of the enemy and much more.

**Prayer:** Lord strengthen me in my spirit and supernaturally infuse me with Your strength in every area so I will not be wearied by the issues of life. Help me to prioritise time with You before getting into the activities of the day because I now see that this is where my success lies.

### **Demolishing Deception**

"We can demolish every deceptive fantasy that opposes God and break through every arrogant attitude that is raised up in defiance of the true knowledge of God..." 2 Corinthians 10:5 TPT The devil is constantly lying to us about who God is and who we are. One of his strategies is to tell us lies about God to keep us from having a close relationship with him. While he tells us many lies, we will look at three today.

**Lie #1 we don't need God.** "Trust God from the bottom of your heart; don't try to figure out everything on your own. Listen for God's voice in everything you do, everywhere you go; he's the one who will keep you on track. Don't assume that you know it all." Proverbs 3:5-6 MSG

God's desire and plan for us is that we have a deep and intimate walk with Him so He can be actively involved in every aspect of our lives. Not because He wants to control us, but because it's not His desire for us to do life based on trial and error. The enemy on the other hand is determined to ensure we don't have this walk with God and don't fulfil God's purpose for our lives. Hence the enemy kingdom's constant suggestions that we focus on ourselves and what we can see, leaving God out.

Lie #2 God isn't interested in us personally. "I knew you before I formed you in your mother's womb. Before you were born I set you apart and appointed you as my prophet to the nations." Jeremiah 1:5

"...For God has said, "I will never fail you. I will never abandon you." Hebrews 13:5

Not only does God know us, He has a well thought out plan for every single one of us. He's not a remote God but one who has chosen to adopt us into His family so we can call Him father.

Lie #3 God can't forgive us because of things we may have done in the past. "For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16

"But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners." Romans 5:8

The Bible tells us clearly that it was while we were in sin that Jesus died for us, so God's love isn't about how good we are, but how loving He is. It's because of our sin that Jesus paid the ultimate price to reconnect us back to God. The enemy lies to us to stop us from having a fruitful walk with God. But every lie has a counter in the Bible which we must arm ourselves with so we don't become victims of deceptive fantasies.

**Prayer:** Lord thank You for reminding me that Your word is the truth and any suggestion contradicting this is a lie from the kingdom of darkness. Help me keep Your truth in my heart and in my lips at all times.

### **Capturing Thoughts**

"... We capture, like prisoners of war, every thought and insist that it bow in obedience to the Anointed One." 2 Corinthians 10:5 TPT

A scientific study shows that the average person thinks about 60,000 thoughts daily, over 70% of which are repetitive. This means that the bulk of our decision making is driven by our subconscious telling us to do what we've always done, the way we've always done it. This is why it's possible to perform routine tasks without actively thinking about what to do.

"For "who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him?" But we have the mind of Christ." I Corinthians 2:16

We must constantly discipline our thoughts because it's unlikely that we will ever do something we haven't thought about first and our natural environment is designed to constantly bombard us with suggestions that oppose God. Because these suggestions are not seemingly bad and they are repetitive, we unconsciously assimilate them into our way of life. For instance suggestions may come to hold someone in offence, make decisions without checking with God or reject what doesn't align with our way of thinking or make us feel good. But Jesus didn't function that way and as believers we have the mind of Christ. Which means we have access to the way He thinks and also have the power to capture and discipline our thoughts to align with His.

"And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise." Philippians 4:8

We have the power and authority to reject and replace any thoughts not passing the tests of alignment with the word of God, who Jesus is, and who He says we are in Him. Thoughts can be fixed and we can determine the thoughts we choose to take up occupancy in our minds. This means we are constantly and consciously taking charge of our thoughts through the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Prayer:** Lord give me understanding of how to be intentional with my thoughts, rejecting what doesn't align with Your word concerning me and replanting with the truth of Your word.

### Winning by Obedience

"and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled." 2 Corinthians 10:6

Obedience is an often overlooked but extremely potent weapon in the realm of the spirit. We cannot effectively judge the activities of the enemy in our lives when we are in disobedience to God. This means that nothing will shift regardless of how long we pray and fast or how often we declare if we do not deal with our areas of disobedience. Paul makes it very clear that we can only deal with issues when our own obedience is complete.

"Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you." James 4:7

If we try to resist the devil before taking the crucial step of submitting to God, he will not flee because as flesh we can't deal with the enemy's wiles. But as we submit to God and obey Him, we give the Holy Spirit room to move fully in and through us and deal with the situation. Submission means total dependence on and total obedience to His instructions and principles. Partial or delayed obedience is still disobedience and we can't judge rebellion if we're also still in rebellion.

"If you love me, obey my commandments." John 14:15

"Rebellion is as sinful as witchcraft, and stubbornness as bad as worshiping idols. So because you have rejected the command of the Lord, he has rejected you as king." 1 Samuel 15:23

God takes obedience very seriously because it is a demonstration of our love for Him. When we act in disobedience and do not repent, we are essentially saying we don't love Him. We see how important this is in the life of Saul as it was disobedience that cost him the kingdom. It's important for us to pause and reflect on the battles we've lost because of disobedience.

**Prayer:** Lord please show me where I've been disobedient to You. I repent of my disobedience and ask for grace to stay in complete obedience to You in every area of my life.

### **Managing the Circles**

"But Jesus didn't trust them, because he knew all about people. No one needed to tell him about human nature, for he knew what was in each person's heart." John 2:24-25

Sometimes we get into unnecessary battles because we give too much information to the wrong people. Being sociable is an important part of life, but that doesn't mean we must expose intimate or important aspects of our lives to just anyone. Jesus constantly had people around Him, but He didn't entrust Himself to everyone.

"He replied, "You are permitted to understand the secrets of the Kingdom of Heaven, but others are not." Matthew 13:11

As important as His assignment was, Jesus didn't entrust it to everyone. He strategically separated the information He communicated into three categories: the general public, close circle and inner circle. There were things He made openly available to everyone, but as the criticality grew the audience decreased. While He taught everyone, Jesus spent time explaining to His disciples and only took 3 of His disciples on personal experiences. This pattern shows us that not all information or assignments are for all people.

"Six days later Jesus took Peter and the two brothers, James and John, and led them up a high mountain to be alone." Matthew 17:1

"He took Peter and Zebedee's two sons, James and John..." Matthew 26:37

"From the half-tribe of Manasseh west of the Jordan, 18,000 men were designated by name to help David become king." 1 Chronicles 12:31

Every God given assignment has people designated to help us complete it. When it was time to make David king specific men were assigned to help him achieve this. Likewise, whenever it was time for something impactful Jesus didn't involve just anyone, only the people that were needed for the assignment. If we share our plans with those that aren't part of the assignment we will either get discouraged or distracted. Not because the people don't mean well, but since they're not part of the assignment, we will end up fighting unnecessary battles due to we are carrying the wrong people along on the journey.

**Prayer:** Lord grant me discernment to manage my circles effectively. Help me identify the people that are assigned for each aspect of my journey, their role in my life and my role in theirs. Keep me from fighting unnecessary battles because I partnered with the wrong people.

Thank you for completing the study. We'll love to hear from you, so please connect with us on:

<u>Instagram</u>

<u>Facebook</u>

Or send us an Email: aheartofwisdom@gmail.com

**©Aheartofwisdom**