

Unstoppable

Doing What We Should Do While God Does What Only He Can Do

“Learning How to Fight”

2 Corinthians 10:1-6

Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Brian Fannin / October 9, 2016

This morning a battle rages; it may seem to you that the obvious battle is a political one. It may seem that the battle is centered in injustice, wealth imbalance, drugs killing our kids or the lack of good middle class jobs. You need not look far for those propagating what they believe the battle really is.

Let's look not to what man says, but to what God says from His Word about the real, unseen battle we're facing and how we are to fight.

To Learn How to Fight...

1. Focus yourself, daily, on who you are in Christ.

In v.1 we see Paul appeals with “meekness and gentleness of Christ.”

That doesn't sound much like how warriors speak when we typically talk about learning how to fight, but this is not a conventional war with smart bombs and sharp debaters. This is about being a child of the King.

God never intended for His children to live in confusion about who they are and to whom they belong!

The central theme of Paul's teaching is rooted in two words, “in Christ.” It encompasses:

- Your spiritual standing (saints 1 Cor. 1:2). Paul was writing to a group of people who were facing very divisive issues and weren't responding well. There was pride, arrogance, competition over what gifts were best, immorality, and heads in the sand, yet he called them *saints*.
- Your provision for what you face today (Ephesians 1:3)
- Your future destiny (Ephesians 1:11-12)

2. Engage in the battle that shapes how you live. (vv. 3-5)

What is that battle? It is the battle for your mind.

Paul is saying though we walk about in the body, the war we really fight is not a physical one. It is a spiritual battle. This spiritual battle is first fought in the realm of your mind.

Proverbs 4:23 Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life.

Our fight as Christians:

- Is with **divine** (God –*theos*) **weapons** (power-*dynamo*, which we get dynamite)
- **Able to tear down fortified places** (strongholds). You have fortified positions in your head and they fully impact your emotions. Many people are willing to do something to find freedom from life dominating thought patterns, habits and sins, but few are willing to do what it takes.
- **Against Arguments** (Greek word for logic – logical reasoning, rationalizations).
- **Against Lofty Opinion** (Lofty comes from Greek word *hyper*) This is focused upon the prideful speculations of reasoning we all have done to one degree or another.

Christianity is based upon significant propositional truth. You must wrestle with the claims of Christ, who He is, and what He accomplished. It is either true or it is not. To reject Him takes thinking, as well as accepting, the claims of Christ on your life. But let's be clear, accepting Christ means that there is one claim for the throne of your life- it is Him.

Tim Keller says you don't go from freedom to slavery by becoming a Christian. You go from slavery to freedom because freedom is not the lack of a master. Freedom is not the lack of a king, but it's finding a true King. Everybody has one.

3. Enlist effective weapons that destroy strongholds, which keep you from living with hopeful purpose.

Life's purpose is to glorify God, spread His fame and to celebrate the greatness of His gospel.

Where do you begin?

- A. **Enlist first your most fundamental weapon; "Declaration"**, then "Obligation"
(2 Corinthians 5: 14-15)
- B. **Be killing pride and be cultivating humility, daily.**
- C. **Pray biblically to build trust in God, fully.**