

It's important that God's Word continues after the message. At Celebrate, we find that you will talk over this week's message long after our experience is over. That's because God has lasting impact. The Sermon Discussion Guide is designed to help you continue the conversation all week.

Winning the Battle Within

God has ultimate power over all the earth. Jesus defeated death. The Holy Spirit counsels us with God's wisdom. Yet we struggle to be what God intends for us, even knowing we have these incredible allies. In order to win the spiritual battle within, we must understand the truth about ourselves according to God's words and promises.

Principles for winning the battle within:

1. We have to see ourselves the way God sees us.

Describe yourself to your group with three words. Did those qualities come from the way others describe you or how God sees you? Do you feel like a warrior of God? How do you think God sees you? Describe yourself in three terms, this time from God's perspective.

1 John 3:1; Colossians 3:12; Psalm 139:13-16; Galatians 3:26-27

2. You can't win if you don't play.

Are you afraid of failure and consequences when God tells you to do something? Do risks for God seem worth it to you? What is keeping you from the destiny God has planned for you? Have you tested or challenged God to try to find certainty in His mission for you?

Isaiah 41:10; Philippians 4:13; Joshua 1:9; Deuteronomy 31:6

3. Engage new strategies.

During your spiritual journey, do you often do the same things and expect different results? Do you wait and say, "I'll see what happens," or do you seek God and make it happen? How can you be more open to God's strategies? Do you have a personal example of when God did something incredible, even if the odds were against it?

Jeremiah 29:11; Proverbs 3:5-6; Romans 8:28; Luke 10:19

Make It Real

- Pray risky prayers. Take risky steps for the Kingdom and trust that God is your ally.
- Remember that what's ahead of you is so much bigger than what's behind you.
- Surrender control and follow God's plan, especially when you feel defeated.