

Waging and Winning the Spiritual War – 2 Corinthians 10

09-16-18 Small Group Questions

Getting Going (15 mins)

1. Settling In & Opening Prayer
2. Tell us about your favorite elementary school teacher and what that teacher did to make you have such fond memories of him or her.

Digging Deeper (40 mins)

1. Review: For the last three weeks we have studied God's perspective on giving in 2 Corinthians chapters 8 and 9. What two or three things from these studies has the Holy Spirit taught you, convicted you of, or encouraged you to do regarding giving?
2. In Chapter 10, verses 1-6, Paul wrote to the believers in Corinth about waging spiritual warfare. In verse 1, the false teachers criticized Paul for being "timid" when dealing face-to-face with others and "bold" when communicating from a distance. When the world cannot attack a believer's message, they would often choose to attack the person instead. How did Paul respond to this personal attack on him? What can we learn from Paul's example?
3. In verse 3 in Chapter 10, Paul warns the false teachers that Timothy and he do not wage war as the world does. In verse 4, Paul writes that the weapons he uses are "divinely powerful" to destroy strongholds. In Ephesians 6:10-17, Paul lists 7 pieces of armor that God has supplied His children to withstand the onslaught of Satan and his hosts. As a group, discuss what the "sword of the spirit" represents and how God intended it to be both an offensive and defensive piece of armor.
4. As a group, read Ephesians 4:14-16, 2 Timothy 2:24-26, and 2 Timothy 3:16-17. In each of these passages, Paul gives a specific use of God's Word. Discuss each of these referenced uses of God's Word. How do these passages inspire you to use God's Word and/or what do these passages reveal about God's Word that you did not know before?
4. In verse 5 in Chapter 10, Paul warns the believers in Corinth about the strongholds which consist of "arguments and pretensions" that set themselves up against the knowledge of God. In your group, discuss some of the "arguments and pretensions" which set themselves up against the knowledge of God with which you find yourself regularly confronted. From our study, how should we be "demolishing" those arguments or pretensions?

Practical Preparation (10 mins)

1. What, if any, arguments or pretensions are affecting your ability to trust that God's Word is divinely powerful for life and Godliness? (2 Peter 1:3)
2. What is one practical step you can take this week to begin destroying the strongholds in your life?

Parting Prayer (15 mins)

Snack Time – *What is a favorite dessert that your mother or grandmother made for you when you were a child?*