

2 Corinthians



Power in Weakness



Winning the Spiritual War

10Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. Ephesians 6:10-11

12For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Ephesians 6:12

**THERE IS A BATTLE BEING FOUGHT
AGAINST YOU – YOU GET TO
CHOOSE WHO WINS**

Be sober [well balanced and self-disciplined], be alert and cautious at all times. That enemy of yours, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion [fiercely hungry], seeking someone to devour. 1 Peter 5:8 AMP



3 Traits of an effective soldier

1. COMPASSION – vs. 1

1By the humility and gentleness of Christ, I appeal to you—I, Paul, who am “timid” when face to face with you, but “bold” toward you when away! 2 Corinthians 10:1

Prautes (gk) – strength under control,
graciousness, give space

2. COURAGE

2I beg you that when I come I may not have to be as bold as I expect to be toward some people who think that we live by the standards of this world. 2 Corinthians 10:2

3. CLEAR MIND

3For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. 4The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.
2 Corinthians 10:3-4

5We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. 2 Cor. 10:5

Demolish – Gk - Kathairesis –
demolition, extinction, destruction,
pulling down

Arguments – Gk - logismos –
imagination, thoughts, reasoning

**Pretentions – Gk - Hupsoma – –
sophisticated and lofty opinion,
obstacles**

6And we will be ready to punish every act of disobedience, once your obedience is complete. 2 Cor. 10:6

***It is impossible to consistently
behave in a manner that is
inconsistent with how we see
ourselves. We can do very few
things in a positive way if we feel
negative about ourselves. Zig Zigler***

***People are never able to outperform
their self-image – John Maxwell***

Ways we lose the battle?

1. We do not challenge our thinking

***Why, my soul, are you downcast?
Why so disturbed within me? Put
your hope in God, for I will yet
praise him, my Savior and my God.
Psalm 42:11***



Nick Vujicic

“Often people ask how I manage to be happy despite having no arms and no legs. The quick answer is that I have a choice. I can be angry about not having limbs, or I can be thankful that I have a purpose. I chose gratitude.” – Nick Vujicic

***“Just because I don’t understand
God’s plans does not mean that he
is not with me.” – Nick Vujicic***

2. We do not know God's Word

Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect. Romans 12:2 NLT

**3. We don't set our mind on
godly things**

⁵ Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires.⁶ The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. Romans 8:5-6

That's why those who are still under the control of their sinful nature can never please God. Romans 8:8 NLT

DON'T REHEARSE – REPLACE

Take Action

What area(s) have I been losing in the battle over my mind?

What action do I need to take to tear down these strongholds and win this spiritual war?