



...but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ, ... (Ephesians 4:15)

Part 6 — LIVING IN VICTORY

Areas of spiritual conflict.

1. Our thinking and our paradigm. (2 Corinthians 10:3-5)
2. The flesh. (Romans 8:5-8; Galatians 5:17; James 4:7)
3. The world. (Romans 12:2; James 4:4; 1 John 2:15-17)
4. The Church. (Ephesians 4:29-32)
5. The devil and the evil, supernatural realm. (Ephesians 6:10-12)

Keys to victorious living: breaking strongholds.

1. Many people struggle with strongholds: an entrenched way of thinking or behavior that is contrary to revealed, Biblical truth and exploited by satanic forces.
2. Read Romans 8:1-17 (our decision) and 31-39 (the results).
3. Following are aggressive, Biblical steps to demolish every stronghold, large or small, visible or hidden.
 - A. Victory is a spiritual issue. Our enemy is not flesh and blood but an invisible being who can exploit our weaknesses to bring us into bondage.
 - Ephesians 6:12 *For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against... the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.*
 - B. The devil has authority in areas we have not submitted to God.
 - Ephesians 4:27 *...and do not give the devil a foothold.* (Genesis 3; Galatians 5:19-21)
 - C. Dealing with our sin is the first step in deliverance and victory!

- 1 John 1:9 *If we confess (agree with God about) our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.* (John 16:8-10)
- D. Establish the fact that God's promises of victory to you are personally yours.
 - John 16:33 *.. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.*
 - 2 Peter 1:3-4 *His Divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him...* (Ephesians 1:3-14)
 - E. Be baptized in the Holy Spirit, God's power in us and with us. It is through the power of the Spirit that we are changed (transformed).
 - Acts 1:8 *But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you;...*
 - 2 Corinthians 3:18 *And we all, who with unveiled faces reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.*
 - F. Put on the whole armor of God as a lifestyle of victory.
 - Ephesians 6:10-18 *...be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil...*
 - G. Learn to use God's Word correctly. Exchange (cancel out) the devil's accusations with Scriptures that fit the situation as Jesus did when He was tempted in the wilderness.
 - 2 Timothy 2:15 *...a worker who... correctly handles the word of truth.*
 - Matthew 4:1-11 *Jesus said to him, "It is written..."*
 - H. Although victory may not yet be a visible reality, live *as if* it is already a part of your life. Make your heart, words and actions agree with the words you read in the Bible.
 - Hebrews 11:1 *Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.* (Psalm 19:14; Romans 10:9-10; Romans 12:1-2)
 - I. Finally, help others in their freedom from strongholds.
 - Mark 5:18-20 *As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who had been demon-possessed begged to go with him. Jesus did not let him, but said, "Go home to your own people and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you..."*