

Community Group Discussion Guide

Week of October 16 - October 22, 2022

Strength in Weakness

The Real Battle

2 Corinthians 10:1-6

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1) Men's Fellowship Breakfast October 29. Sign up online.
- 2) Baptism October 30 after the third service. Sign up online.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

When was the most recent time you have called on God in prayer when you felt overwhelmed by a situation? What was the result?

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time, caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

MAIN POINTS:

We can engage in the spiritual battle with confidence in God's power and relying on God's truth, knowing that Jesus has already won the ultimate victory.

DIGGING DEEPER

We can engage in the spiritual battle...

1. **Read 2 Corinthians 10:1-2.** What situation was Paul addressing in these verses? What accusations had been made? What was Paul's response?
 - a. Paul invokes "the meekness and gentleness of Christ" in his response to the Corinthians. What reaction is he trying to elicit from the Corinthians by doing this?
 - b. Paul promises to address the accusations when he arrives in Corinth. Is his issue with all of the Corinthian Christians? What does he say he wants to avoid?
 - c. When we *engage in a spiritual battle*, how can we be encouraged by these verses? In what way is Paul's response to the Corinthians a guide to how we should respond when facing adversity?

with confidence in God's power...

2. **Read 2 Corinthians 10:3-4.** When Paul says "...we walk in the flesh..." what is he referring to? When he says "...we are not waging war according to the flesh..." how is he redirecting the conversation? How would this differ from waging war in the flesh?
 - a. **Read Ephesians 6:12.** Against what or who is our struggle against according to this text? In what way should we apply this verse? **Read 1 Peter 5:8.** According

to this verse, who is “your” adversary? How can you apply this truth the next time you are faced with a challenge?

- b. **Read Ephesians 6:13-17.** What are the spiritual weapons described by Paul in these verses? What weapons were the Corinthians using against Paul? **Discussion:** Did the Corinthians consider Paul to be weak because he was not using carnal methods to address issues in the church rather than spiritual methods?
- c. Paul says that divine power has the ability to “..destroy strongholds.” To what strongholds is he referring? How can we use these divine powers i.e. *God’s power* to destroy the “strongholds” in our lives?

and relying on God’s truth...

- 3. **Read 2 Corinthians 10:5.** What does Paul say we need to do to avoid carnal thinking? If carnal thinking leads to carnal action, how do we “.. take every thought captive...” and how can this lead us “to obey Christ i.e. to *rely on God’s truth*?

knowing that Jesus has already won the ultimate victory.

- 4. **Read 2 Corinthians 10:6.** What punishment, do you believe, was Paul promising to hand out when he arrived? What does he mean when he says, “..when your obedience is complete.”?
 - a. What authority has Paul been given to implement this punishment?
 - b. What authority have we been given to act with boldness when defending ourselves from attacks of the enemy? How does *knowing that Jesus has already won the ultimate victory* help us in this regard?

TAKING IT HOME

Looking back at this week’s study, what is important for you to remember and why?

PRAISE & PRAYER REQUESTS

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