

CHRISTIAN  LIFE CENTER

OVER

STRATEGIES FOR SPIRITUAL VICTORIES

FLOW

*21 days
of prayer
and fasting*

Dear Friend,

Throughout the course of biblical history, whenever God wanted to bring forth change in a world, He called for an awakening of his people. In our lifetime, there has been at least five "Great Awakenings" dating back to the 1700's. These awakenings happened in times where the world was in peril, and people had forgotten God. They began to live their lives immorally, fearfully, and oppression swept the nations.

However, God called forth a remnant of His Glory to be manifested in the earth through His people and revival broke out causing change to happen. The great awakenings from the past not only empowered God's people, but it caused them to bring about freedom and deliverance to all that encountered them.

We believe that God impresses on us to birth an awakening right now, in this season and He wants it to begin with us. Prophet Ezra wrote in 2 Chronicles in the mid 400BC,

"If My people, who are called by My name, will humble themselves and pray, and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

If ever there was a time that God's people need to arise, it is now! Will you join us in this 21 Days of Prayer and Fasting to be the change that the world desperately desires?

On this journey, set aside time to read through this devotional, study the Word and seek God for a greater discernment and anointing to walk out this commission of 2 Chronicles. Whether you have prayed and fasted before, or if this is your first time, you can start where you are and experience what God has in store for you in a powerful way.

The tools provided in this devotional are practical guidelines to help you navigate through this 21 Days of prayer commission. As you read over this information, please consider how it applies to you and your personal circumstances and convictions. Use the SOAP Method (Scriptures, Observation, Application, Prayer) for allowing the Holy Spirit to speak to you.

Now, are you ready to awaken the spiritual giant that lies within you to take back our nations for the Kingdom of God? Step into His "overflow" for your life!

Pastor Tom Manning,
Senior Pastor





Fasting is a principle that God intended for everyone to be able to enjoy. It's not a punishment; it's a privilege! By making fasting a way of life, you can get closer to God and grow in your spiritual walk like never before.

Fasting is one of the most powerful weapons God has given us for our daily lives. Through fasting, you can experience a release from the bondage of sin ... restoration in your relationships ... financial blessings ... spiritual renewal ... supernatural healing and so much more!

When you fast, you open up the blessings and opportunities He has provided for you.

Biblical fasting takes a lot of discipline and strength—strength which you can only receive from God. Matt 6:33 says, When you seek God, and His Righteousness, He will reward you.

Isaiah 58:6

"[Is] not this the fast that I have chosen to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke?"

Ezra 8:21-23 (TLB)

"21 Then I declared a fast while we were at the Ahava River so that we would humble ourselves before our God; and we prayed that he would give us a good journey and protect us, our children, and our goods as we traveled. 22 So we fasted and begged God to take care of us. And he did."

How to Begin: Start with a clear goal. Be specific. Why are you fasting? Do you need direction, healing, restoration of marriage or family issues? Are you facing financial difficulties? Ask the Holy Spirit for guidance. Pray daily, and read the Bible.



FASTING TIPS

Preparing Spiritually: Confess your sins to God. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal areas of weaknesses. Forgive all who have offended you and ask forgiveness from those you may have offended (Mark 11:25; Luke 11:4; 17:3-4). Surrender your life fully to Jesus Christ and reject the worldly desires that try to hinder you (Romans 12:1-2).

Deciding What to Fast: Decide ahead of time the type of fasting you choose, it is up to you. Remember to replace that time that you would have spent eating, with prayer and Bible study.

CORPORATE FASTING

There is power in Unity! God's anointing will break the yoke of bondage.

2 Chronicles 7:14-16 (NIV)

“14 if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land. 15 Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place. 16 I have chosen and consecrated this temple so that my Name may be there forever. My eyes and my heart will always be there.”

In corporate prayer and fasting, there is tremendous power.

DIFFERENT TYPES OF FASTS:

- **Full Fast:** Drink only liquids, usually just water
- **Daniel Fast:** Eat no meat, no sweets and no bread. Drink water and juice. Eat fruits and vegetables.
- **Partial Fast:** Fast a meal. Some fast from sun up to sunset.



1
WEEK
DAYS 1-7

“But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face.” Matthew 6:17

Fasting is essentially giving up food and/or liquids (as well as other distractions) for a period of time in order to focus your heart and mind on God. There are many significant spiritual benefits to fasting. When you fast—and, to be clear, Jesus said, “When you fast” (Matt. 6:16), not “If you fast”—you humble your soul (Ps. 69:10). Fasting makes you more sensitive to the Spirit, enabling you to hear that still, small voice. You can obtain God’s battle plan, His strategies, and His tactics while fasting. Fasting helps you cultivate an intimacy with Jesus that will subdue carnal tendencies. Sometimes you have to fast to break a yoke of bondage, especially if your fleshly habits have given the enemy a foothold. Isaiah 58:6 tells us, “Is not this the fast that I have chosen: To loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and break every yoke?”

Biblical fasting brings us into a closer union with God. While our bodies are being deprived for the purpose of drawing near to God, He has promised in return to draw near to us.

Fasting positions us to hear God’s directives. During the early church days, the apostles’ decisions were made through fasting and prayer. While they were worshipping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, ‘Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.’ So, after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off” (Acts 13:2-3).

Fasting changes our hearts. The entire city of Nineveh fasted, including animals, upon hearing the pronouncement of judgment from the prophet Jonah -- and God spared them (Jonah 3:10). Queen Esther called a corporate fast for God’s direction to stand in the gap for her people, she was granted divine favor. Jesus received divine preparation for His earthly ministry while fasting. Moses waited upon God with fasting for forty days and received the Ten commandments.

Fasting exemplifies our attitude of spiritual hunger -- the promise is that we will be satisfied. “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled” (Matthew 5:6).

“The seventy returned with joy, saying, ‘Lord, even the demons are subject to us through Your name’ Luke 10:17

When we meet with spiritual warfare, we may be tempted to wrestle the enemy in our intellect, reasoning, or sheer willpower. But we wrestle not against flesh and blood—our fight is against principalities, powers, rulers of the darkness of the age, and spiritual wickedness in high places, according to Ephesians 6:12. This is why Paul informs us that the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but they are mighty in God (2 Cor. 10:4). The key is understanding the authority by which we have to use these weapons. The mighty weapons with which God has equipped us with must be used under the lordship of Jesus Christ and with the authority He has given us in His name. Our baseline in any battle is understanding the power in the name of Jesus, praying in the name of Jesus, and otherwise taking authority over our enemies—which are also His enemies—in the name of Jesus. Consider the power in the name of Jesus as Paul describes it in Philippians 2:9–11: “Therefore God highly exalted Him and gave Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

Just like there is no other name under heaven by which we can be saved (Acts 4:12), there is no other name under heaven by which we can take authority over the enemy’s powers. In our own authority we have no ability to stand against the devil. We cannot go toe-to-toe with the devil in our flesh, but by the authority that is in the name of Jesus we are more than conquerors. Jesus sent out seventy disciples two by two. When they completed their mission, they came back with a good report: “The seventy returned with joy, saying, ‘Lord, even the demons are subject to us through Your Name’” (Luke 10:17).

Meditate on the power in the name of Jesus. Get a revelation of the power that is in that name and exercise your authority and you will see victory.

Day 3. The Strategy of Casting Down Vain Imaginations

Paul taught us the concept of casting down imaginations, but many believers don't understand how to engage in this type of mind warfare. **2 Corinthians 10:5** lays out the concept: **“Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ” (KJV).**

As you seek to cast down any imaginations that exalts itself against the knowledge of God—it is helpful to understand that the phrase casting down in 2 Corinthians 10:5 comes from the Greek word *kathairéo*, which has a violent connotation. *Kathairéo* means to cast down “with the use of force.” The Bible says you are to cast down every imagination, not just some imaginations.

The battle is in your mind, but the war is for your heart. When thoughts that oppose God's Word plague you, decide to evict them with the full force of your will. That begins by paying attention to your thought life. You have to think about what you are thinking about. When the enemy whispers the thought that says, “you will never succeed at anything.” You know that is not Truth since God's Word lets you know according to Philippians 4:13, you can do all things through Christ who gives you strength. We, therefore, recognize the thought as a vain imagination exalting itself above God's Word. We must then take the thought captive by rejecting it and binding that vain imagination in the name of Jesus. Don't stop there. Speak the opposite out of your mouth according to the Word of God. In this case you would say, “I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength.”

Day 4. The Strategy of Wearing Your Shoes of Peace

In **Ephesians 6:15** Paul tells us to have our **“feet fitted with the readiness of the gospel of peace.”**

Other translations speak of the “shoes” of peace or having our feet “shod.” The idea is to walk in the peace of God. Jesus said, “I have told you these things so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have distress. But be of good cheer. I have overcome the world” (John 16:33). Paul promises us if we pray and thank God, the result will be supernatural peace that passes all understanding—and that peace will guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus (Phil. 4:6–7).

Ecclesiastes 3:8 tells us there is a time for war and a time for peace. But rest assured you can have peace in the middle of the war when you understand who you are in Christ. See, the devil is not really after your money, because he can’t use your money. The devil is not really after your car or your job or your house. No, not really. What he’s after is your peace, your joy, your hope, and your faith. He wants to spoil the fruit of the Spirit—love, joy, peace, patience, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and self-control—in your life by tempting you to walk in the flesh.

Decide each day to put on your shoes of peace. Decide that nothing is going to rob you of the peace Jesus gave you. You have the power to remain peaceful when all around you is filled with confusion and chaos. When we walk in peace we are identified as a child of God: “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.” (Matthew 5:9)

Day 5. The Strategy of Wearing The Breastplate of Righteousness

“.... with the breastplate of righteousness in place.” Ephesians 6:14

The Amplified Classic translation describes the breastplate as “breastplate of integrity and of moral rectitude and right standing with God.” A breastplate is the part of the armor that protects a large portion of your body—from the neck to the navel. Most fatal wounds are hits to this area of the body. Righteousness protects you from the devil’s cheap shots against your heart, so it’s vital to put on this heavy metal defensive armor. Your own righteousness is like “filthy rags” (Isa. 64:6). Self-righteousness won’t take you anywhere in God’s kingdom.

We stand on 2 Corinthians 5:21: “God made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.” What does it mean to become the righteousness of God in Christ? The Greek word for righteousness in this verse is *diakaiosyne*. It means: state of him who is as he ought to be, righteousness, the condition acceptable to God; integrity, virtue, purity of life, rightness, correctness of thinking, feeling and acting.

The enemy works to bring a sin consciousness to your soul. We must strive to maintain a righteousness consciousness and ward off any guilt or condemning thoughts trying to plague our minds when we do sin according to Romans 8:1. This is important because many believers tend to turn away from God when they feel guilt or shame, leaving them vulnerable to further attacks from the enemy on their identity and who they are in Christ.

Not only must we choose to put on the breastplate of righteousness but more importantly, we must keep it on. If you sin, don’t throw off your armor. Instead, repent, run to the Lord, and ask Him for the grace to resist temptations.

"He who covers his sins will not prosper, but whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy." Proverbs 28:13

If you are practicing sin it can negatively impact the outcome of the battle you are fighting. In Joshua 7 a man named Achan violated the instructions of the Lord and took some of the spoils of war and hid them in his tent under the ground. His sinful action caused casualties in Israel's next battle. The sin of Achan teaches us the principle of repenting before going into spiritual battles. One should never enter into a spiritual battle without first entering into repentance from personal sin.

The word repent means "to change one's mind; to change one's mind for the better, heartily to amend with abhorrence of one's past sins." It means to have a change of heart about the sin you've committed-seeing it the way God sees it, renouncing it and turning away from it.

John the apostle said in 1 John 1:9: "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar and His word is not in us."

We all fall short of God's glory every day. Repentance itself can cause a spiritual warfare to stop because we are resisting the devil and submitting ourselves to God. When we do this, James 4:7 says, the enemy must flee!

“But David encouraged himself in the Lord his God.” 1 Samuel 30:6

One of the enemy’s tactics is to discourage us into defeat. We see this tactic of his against David in 1 Samuel 30. Upon returning to Ziklag, David and his men discovered that the Amalekites had raided and burned their city down as well as kidnapped their women and children. To make matters worse they had taken David’s wives captive. David and his men cried aloud. But it got worse for David as all the people gathered to stone him.

But, 1 Samuel 30:6 says, “but David encouraged himself in the Lord his God.” While discouragement was looming over David’s head, David did not make self-pity his residence. Instead he rose up and stole away for a few minutes to gather himself and call out to God in prayer. I could imagine David praying as he did in Psalm 34:

I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise will continually be in my mouth. My soul will make its boast in the Lord; the humble will hear of it and be glad. Oh, magnify the Lord with me and let us exalt His name together. I sought the Lord and He answered me and delivered me from all my fears.... This poor man cried, and the Lord heard, and saved him out of all his troubles. The angel of the Lord camps around those who fear Him and delivers them. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him.

I get the feeling David was reminding himself of God’s faithfulness, delivering power and grace that sustains him in the midst of his battles. When you can’t find anyone else to encourage you, encourage yourself in the Lord and remind yourself of God’s faithfulness.

An aerial photograph of a river flowing through a dense forest. The river is turbulent, with white water rapids and several large rocks. Several kayakers are visible in the river, navigating the rapids. The forest is composed of tall, green evergreen trees. The overall scene is dynamic and adventurous.

2

WEEK

DAYS 8-14

"And the prayer of faith will save the sick and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed any sins, he will be forgiven. Confess your faults to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man accomplishes much." James 5:15-16

A fervent spirit is a defense against the enemy of your soul. In fact, zeal is part of your spiritual armor (Isaiah 59:17). A fervent prayer does not have to be loud, but it is certainly passionate. You may whisper in the name of Jesus and demons still must bow. God expects us to be fervent in spirit (Romans 12:11); fervent minded (2 Corinthians 7:7); fervent in prayer (Colossians 4:12; James 5:16); and fervent in love for one another (1 Peter 1:22)

When we believe that the One we are praying to not only hears us but is able and willing to act in response to our prayers made in accordance to His will, this knowledge lights a fire of passion to our prayers. We believe therefore we pray. And we pray because "we have this confidence in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have what we have asked of Him." (1 John 5:14-15)

Where you see fervency, you see salvations, miracles, deliverance, and the power of God at work. May we begin to pray with passionate fervor causing us to accomplish much in the realm of the spirit.

"Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer." Psalm 19:14

Joshua was a man of great success. He led the Israelites into the long-awaited Promised Land and conquered enemy after enemy. He had an impressive track record on the battlefield. He even saw the sun stand still on a day of battle.

One of the keys to Joshua's great success is found in Joshua chapter 1. God gave Joshua specific instructions that would ensure his success and it will ensure ours as well if we do likewise: "Be strong and very courageous, in order to act carefully in accordance with all the law that my servant Moses commanded you. Do not turn aside from it to the right or the left, so that you may succeed wherever you go. This book of the Law must not depart from your mouth. Meditate on it day and night so that you may act carefully according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way successful, and you will be wise." Joshua 1:7-8

God told Joshua specifically to walk in accordance to the Word. Because of Joshua's obedience, he obtained something not even Moses obtained-the Promised Land flowing with milk and honey.

God told Joshua to mediate on the Word day and night. Meditate means to ponder, imagine, speak, study and utter. If we mediate on God's Word not only will it increase our faith, but it will serve as a shield to block doubt from entering your mind.

Meditating on God's word also renews our mind. When our minds are renewed to the Word it becomes natural for us to be a doer of the Word than walk in the ways of the world.

“Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.” Luke 10:19

Satan is referred to in the Bible as the god of this world (2 Corinthians 4:4), the prince of the power of the air (Ephesians 2:2), and the ruler of this world (John 16:11). The good news is the enemy has no authority of us. We are in the world but not of it (John 17:6). Greater is He who is in us than he who is in the world (1 John 4:4).

I love what Jesus Himself tells us in Luke 10:19: “Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.” The word power (I give unto you power) in this verse is Exousia, which means “physical and mental power; the ability or strength with which one is endued, which he either possesses or exercises.” We can choose to exercise power over the enemy’s tactics.

When we resist the enemy, we are resisting his tactics coming against us. When we cast down a thought that the enemy has planted in our minds, we are binding his tactics and bringing it under the authority of the one who is greater on the inside of us. The power that Christ has given to us is greater than the power that Satan tries to use against us. But we must know and stand complete in He who is greater on the inside of us-The Holy Spirit.

Remember you serve a Just God who has given you power over the enemy. Rise up and say, “Devil, I break your powers against my life, my family, my health and my finances in Jesus name!”

“All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth.” Matthew 28:18

Authority in this verse means “the power of rule or government; the power of him whose will and commands must be submitted to by others and obeyed.”

Jesus gives us, as His disciples, a measure of His own authority, jurisdiction, influence and anointing to do.

We read in Matthew 10:1: “He called His twelve disciples to Him and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease.” And like these disciples, God has given every disciple the authority to not only stand against the enemy but to drive him out. Authority is the power to act on God’s Word. We are to exercise our authority based on faith not feelings. The authority to command the enemy to loose your wayward child is yours, whether you feel like it or not. You can feel powerless as a believer, but the truth is you have authority that Christ has given you through His Spirit.

Authority has nothing to do with emotions. It’s what Christ has already made available to us—it’s up to us to use it. But here is the catch: you must be under authority to have authority. You need to submit to God’s authority in order to successfully exercise Christ’s authority. Jesus Himself said, “I did not come of My own authority, but He sent Me.” (John 8:42) When you believe you have authority and have faith in the One who delegated it, you can exercise it against the enemy, you will see great results.

**"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are the sons of God."
Romans 8:14**

God created all of us, both men and women, with emotions. Each person may express their emotions differently but we all have them. Emotions are not bad in and of themselves, but we are not to be led by them. Instead we are to be spirit led.

Your soul is made up of your mind, will, and emotions. Your will is the space within you from which you express your desires, settle on decisions, and drive actions in your life. Your mind is home to your reasoning and intellect. Your emotions are the seat within your soul that filters events and circumstances through a state of feelings and reacts accordingly. The enemy of your soul works overtime on your emotions to trick you into walking according to how you feel and not according to what God's word says. We must submit our emotions to the leadership of the Holy Spirit. This is what it means to be Spirit led.

We cannot pick and choose which emotions we will surrender to God and which ones we will allow free reign in our soul, unless we will end up emotionally unstable, spinning in circles. We must choose to align our emotions with the Word of God. We see David in the book of Psalms pouring out his emotions to God-anger, disappointment, hurt, confusion-but he did not wallow in those emotions. He submitted them to the one who could stabilize his soul.

I will bless the Lord who has counseled me; Indeed, my mind instructs me in the night. I have set the Lord continually before me; Because He is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. Psalm 16:7-8

"Do not be deceived." 1 Corinthians 6:9

Almost every book in the New Testament has some warning about deception or deceivers. Jesus said, "Take heed that no one deceives you" (Matthew 24:4); and "Beware unless you become deceived" (Luke 21:8). Paul warned, "Let no one deceive himself" (1 Corinthians 3:18); "Do not be deceived" (1 Corinthians 6:9).

The devil is a deceiver. He is a liar and the father of lies (John 8:44). None of us are above deception. If we think we are, then we are already deceived. The good news is Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to guide us into all Truth. If we follow His Word, then we will walk in the light. Truth is one of the weapons of our warfare that is mighty in God for the pulling down of strongholds. When we don't walk in truth then we will easily believe a lie and deception can settle in our souls.

Discernment can guard us from the traps of deception. As followers of Christ we all have the ability to walk in discernment through the power of the Holy Spirit. To discern means to show insight and understanding. When you find yourself in a raging war and your thoughts are running with you, taking you down paths that are unhealthy and destructive, take the opportunity to break the deception that you are believing off of your mind.

God's confessed Word is an assault against a deception that has been planted in your mind. Shine the light of God's truth on the lie and walk in peace and freedom.



3
WEEK
DAYS 15-21

“Therefore, submit yourselves to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.” James 4:7

The word resist in this verse is from the Greek word anthistemi, which means to “take a complete stand against, a contrary position; to establish one’s position publicly by conspicuously holding one’s ground; refusing to be moved.” Once we’ve submitted to God we have a better position in which we can resist the devil because there is a stronger grace for us to stand and withstand. It is very difficult to resist the devil while being disobedient to God.

So how do we resist the devil practically? We resist the devil when we stand on God’s Word, which is immovable and incorruptible. Resisting the devil often means resisting his lies. To resist a lie, we must stand on the truth in God’s Word, thinking about it and declaring what God says of a situation rather than rehearsing and repeating what the enemy is whispering in our ears.

We resist the devil by resisting the temptation to sin. We resist the devil by casting down vain imaginations and not entertaining unhealthy thoughts. We resist the devil by walking in the Spirit and not yielding to the lustful desires of our flesh. And finally, we resist the devil when we put on the full armor of God as described to us in Ephesians 6, and use God’s mighty weapons He has given to us which are not carnal but mighty in God for the pulling down of strongholds, taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ!

“For we walk by faith and not by sight.” 2 Corinthians 5:7

We have been given a measure of faith and we are expected to walk in it (Romans 12:3). When Paul stated we “walk by faith and not by sight”, it wasn’t a suggestion it was a statement of truth. The Amplified Bible puts it this way: For we walk by faith [we regulate our lives and conduct ourselves by our conviction or belief respecting man’s relationship to God and divine things, with trust and holy fervor; thus, we walk] not by sight or appearance.

The enemy does everything he can to get us to regulate our lives and conduct ourselves by fear, doubt, and unbelief. He uses what we can see with our eyes to inject double-mindedness into our souls. He is an expert at luring us to respond to a small molehill as if it was a mountain. He magnifies situations in our minds so that they overshadow God’s Word in our hearts. The more we focus on what the enemy is showing us the more we will walk by sight which dilutes our faith.

Our faith is not based on what we see. It’s not based on our feelings, intellect or our own wisdom; it is based on the power of God and His Word of truth (1 Corinthians 2:5). We must fight the good fight of faith. That means refusing to mediate on what the devil throws in our face and the lies he whispers in our ears. When we walk by faith we keep our eyes on the promise set before us in the Word of God which allows Jesus to remain the center of our focus.

“When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are in peace. But when a stronger man than he comes upon him and overcomes him, he takes from him all his armor in which he trusted and divides his spoils.” Luke 11:21-22

The strong man could be the spirit of fear, the spirit of poverty, depression, or any other spirit on assignment. Sometimes we are walking through great difficulty and challenges and we aren't aware that there is a "strong man" assigned to frustrate and antagonize you. Ask the Lord for discernment as to what the "strong man" is, then set your sights on binding him with the authority you carry in Jesus name. If it's a spirit of confusion attacking your home, you can identify it and bind it in Jesus name and loose God's peace and order for your household.

Ephesians 6:10 tell us to "be strong in the Lord." This is an important scripture to memorize and meditate upon if you set out to bind the "strong man" in any battle. Remember, it's by the Lord's power that you can bind and loose. We cannot fight the enemy in our own strength. Zechariah 4:6 says, "not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit, says the Lord of Hosts."

When you take your authority to bind the strong man, you are depending on the stronger man's ability to overpower him. In Christ you are stronger. The Greek word for stronger in Luke 11:22 is ischyros. It means "mighty; strong either in body or in mind; of one who has strength of soul to sustain the attacks of Satan, strong and therefore exhibiting many excellences."

The strong man may set up strongholds, but your weapons are "mighty through God for the pulling down of strongholds" (2 Corinthians 10:4).

“Therefore, take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. 14 Stand therefore....” Ephesians 6:13-14a

Sometimes you feel like you’ve prayed and prayed but nothing is happening. Seems like you come out of one battle only to find another waiting on you. And if we are honest, sometimes you just want to run away from it all. Feels like you are on the verge of giving up.

So, what are we to do when we feel like giving up? Do you sleep until the battle is done? Do you eat until the problems go away? Do you wallow in self-pity? DO you drown your pillow with tears? Truth is none of these will overcome the battles we face. So, what do you do when you feel like giving up? Keep going. The temptation to give up in the midst of the battle will overwhelm you so you must determine from the very beginning that you will not give up under any circumstance. That’s a mental resolve that must be settled now!

When you feel like giving up take your complaints to God and cast your cares at His feet. He can certainly handle it. Ultimately you must come to the conclusion that God does hear you whether or not you feel like it (Psalm 116:1), that He is working on the situation (Romans 8:28), and that His grace is sufficient for you (2 Corinthians 12:9). You must decide in your heart that God is trustworthy (Psalm 9:10). Set your heart to trust God and you will not be disappointed (Romans 10:11). And then do what Paul tells us in Ephesians 6:13-14, having done all to stand, stand therefore!

“And then all this assembly will know that it is not by sword and spear that the Lord saves. For the battle belongs to the Lord....” 1 Samuel 17:47

When the enemy is attacking us, our bodies, families, finances and even our character what we have to ultimately remember is the battle is not ours but the Lord's. Satan is after us because he hates God and we are the apple of God's eyes. 2 Chronicles 10:15 tell us, “Thus says the Lord to you, do not fear, nor be dismayed because of this great army, for the battle is not yours, but God's.” We need to remember this in times of battle. We must also remember that we are Christ's ambassadors here on earth. We are ministers of reconciliation. Jesus tells us to occupy until He comes back. Lean into your assignments. He's given us authority and dominion as His hands and feet. “You are My battle-ax and weapon of war: for with you I will break in pieces the nations, and with you I will destroy kingdoms” (Jeremiah 51:20).

The enemy doesn't want you to rise up and do what you are called to do so he tries to defeat you and oppose you. But this battle we fight, it belongs to the Lord, we shall not be moved. The Lord has already defeated the enemy. The scripture says Satan is a defeated foe who is under our feet! (Romans 16:20) So, go in the name of the Lord and in the power of His might. He has already given you every victory in Christ Jesus! (1 Corinthians 15:57)

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL WARRIORS

Lord I thank you that you always lead me into triumph in Christ Jesus. Strengthen my inner man so I can remain steadfast even in times of spiritual battles. Open my eyes and help me to see what is coming against me so that I can fight accurately in the spirit. Give me Your battle plan, Your strategy, and Your tactics, in Jesus Name. Remind me when people stand against me that the battle is not flesh and blood but spiritual. Help me to move in accordance with the Holy Spirit, to bless and not curse, to walk in love, and to pray for those who persecute me.

Right now, I take authority over every enemy attack, in the name of Jesus. I break and bind all assignments against me and my family. I stand fully equipped with the weapons of my warfare, which are not carnal but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds. I cast down vain imaginations, pulling down every enemy stronghold over my life,
in Jesus name.

Now Lord, I praise You for the victory. I thank you in advance that the war is won. I rejoice in You, and I am strengthened to continue fighting every good fight of faith. I give you glory and honor, for you alone are worthy of my adoration.

PREPARING FOR THE NEXT LEVEL

Join us, as we come together for 21 Days of Prayer & Fasting from January 7 – 27 at our Fort Lauderdale campus. Each night at 7:15pm you will have the opportunity to join us for prayer at the FTL campus. We will be praying over our Gatekeepers Prayer gates that represents the ministries of Christian Life Center (Please see your campus for specific prayer nights).

Gatekeepers Prayer Ministry is modeled after the twelve gates in Jerusalem referenced in the book of Nehemiah. The restoration of the gates in the book of Nehemiah was birthed in the pain of a man who witnessed the ruins and desolation of his nation. In response, Nehemiah set up 12 gates and set a captain for each gate. The captain had gatekeepers to work alongside him. Gatekeepers kept watch on the gates, watching for what may be coming in and out of the city. Everyone had the sword girded at their side!

In building God's Church, we must be alert in prayer and the Word (Sword of the Spirit) to stand watch against every attack of the enemy.

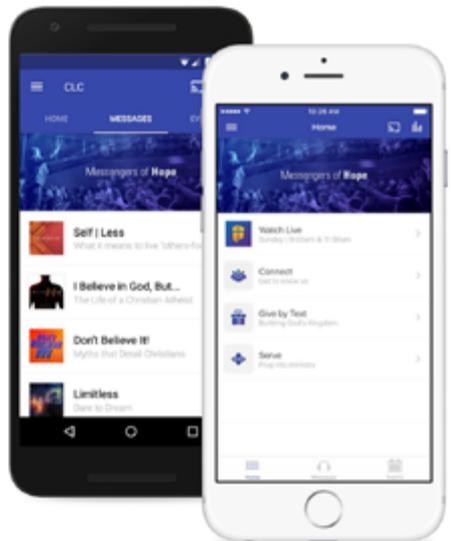
NIGHTS ABLAZE PRAYER AND REVIVAL SERVICES

As we continue in this season of "Overflow," we encourage you to join us for all nights of our revival services, "Nights Ablaze" with Pastors Tom Manning, Pat Schatzline (Jan 13), Celia Collins (Jan 20) and Moses Omoviye (Jan 25, 27) at our Fort Lauderdale Campus. Meet us to experience a refreshing night of worship and seeking God!



The CLCFTL App

clcftl.org/app





CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER

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