

ATTAINING VICTORY IN THE WAR FOR PURITY
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We are called to be holy.

But just as He who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do for it is written "Be holy, because I am holy." (1 Ptr 1:15)

For God did not call us to be impure but to lead a holy life. (1 Thess 4:7)

Since we have these promises, dear friends, let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God. (2 Corinthians 7:1)

1 Corinthians 10:13 Assurance of Victory

➤ Part 1a No temptation has seized you ...

Truth #1: We have enemies who are trying to seize us.

WHO ARE OUR ENEMIES AND WHAT ARE THEIR STRATEGIES?

The devil attacks our weaknesses.

Be self controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings. (1 Peter 5:8-9)

The devil is the father of all lies. He works through deceit.

He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies. (John 8:44)

The devil uses guilt to demoralize us.

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, (Romans 8:1)

Our flesh is weak and sinful at the core.

Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing but the body is weak. (Matthew 26:41)

I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. (Romans 7:18)

The weakness of our flesh leads to compromise.

Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; (Gal 6:7-8)

Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of Him to whom we must give account. (Hebrews 4:13)

The world preaches the lies of Satan.

A mocker resents correction; He will not consult the wise. (Proverbs 14:12)

Follow the ways of your heart and whatever your eyes see, but know that for all these things God will bring you to judgment. (Ecc 11:9)

You adulterous people don't you know that friendship with the world is hatred toward God? (James 4:4)

➤ Part 1b ... except what is common to man.

Truth #2 None of us are "terminally unique."

WHAT DOES THIS TRUTH MEAN FOR US IN THE BATTLE?

So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall. (1 Cor 10:12)

Who can say, "I have kept my heart pure; I am clean and without sin?" (Proverbs 20:9)

We must utilize fellowship and transparent accountability

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. (1 Jn 1:7)

➤ **Part 2a And God is faithful;**

Truth #3 God is faithful.

WHAT DOES THIS PROMISE MEAN FOR ME IN THE BATTLE?

Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure. (1 John 3:2-3)

➤ **Part 2b He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear.**

Truth #4 God is sovereign over temptation.

IF GOD IS IN CHARGE, WHOM THEN SHALL I FEAR?

For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope – the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good. (Titus 2:11-14)

➤ **Part 3a But when you are tempted . . .**

Truth #5 We must be aware and alert when we are under attack.

WHAT IS OUR RESPONSE IN THE MOMENT OF DECISION?

Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. (John 14:21)

I know, my God, that you test the heart and are pleased with integrity. (1 Chron 29:17)

Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him. (James 1:12)

When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me. (I Cor 13:11)

Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be men of courage; be strong. (I Cor 16:13)

➤ **Part 3b** *he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.*

Truth #6 *God will provide the way of escape and we must follow HIM to be victorious.*

WHAT ARE THE “WAYS OUT” THAT YOU HAVE SEEN GOD PROVIDE?

My identity in Christ

Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own, you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body. (1 Cor 6:19-20)

My relationship with my Father

*2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD,
and on his law he meditates day and night.
3 He is like a tree planted by streams of water,
which yields its fruit in season
and whose leaf does not wither.
Whatever he does prospers. (Psalm 1:2-3)*

The power of God Himself

Because He himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted. (Hebrews 2:18)

Writing God’s Word on my heart

I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you. (Psalm 119:11)

Confession

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. (I John 1:9)

*He who conceals his sins does not prosper,
But whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy. (Proverbs 28:13)*

Praying for His provision

*Create in me a pure heart, O God,
And renew a steadfast
spirit within me. (Psalm 51:10)*

Avoiding evil – Don't Go There

*Do not set foot on the path of the wicked or walk in the way of evil men.
Avoid it, do not travel on it; turn from it and go on your way.
(Proverbs 4:14-15)*

When all else fails, FLEE!

Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. (I cor 10:18)

CONCLUSION: WE MUST CLAIM VICTORY

I can do everything through HIM who strengthens me. (Phil 4:13)

*No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.
(Romans 8:37)*

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.” (Matthew 5:8)

APPLICATION

Workshop Worksheet – Part 1: Three sample questions from a Bible Study section entitled, “Spiritual Warfare”

For 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)

1. How is the Christian life described by the Apostle Paul in Ephesians 6:12?

for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world? Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God. (1 John 5:4-5)

2. What is the basis for victory over the world from 1 John 5:4-5?

Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil—and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. (Hebrews 2:14-15)

3. According to Hebrews 2:14-15, what did Christ’s death on the cross mean for Satan?

Workshop Worksheet Part 2: Practicing with Understanding Questions

1. Understanding question for answer #1 –

2. Understanding question for answer #2 –

3. Understanding question for answer #3 –