

Warfare

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I. Introduction.

A. Whenever a Christian is discouraged, we ought to read the final score in Revelation and stick to the battle. The only question is whether we get a piece of the action.

B. Jesus finished the work of redemption and the work of training men to carry the message of the Great Commission. (John 17:4; 19:30; 4; II Timothy 4; Acts 20)

C. It is important that we have our objectives clear. (Proverbs 13:19)

III. There are three basic qualities of a disciple.

A. Someone who continues in the Word of God. (John 8:31-32)

1. To continue means to listen to Jesus' words, to pay attention to what was happening when the words were said and to know the meaning of those words and obedience.

2. This is an essential for discipleship.

B. Someone who walks in love. (John 13:34-34)

1. Love means laying aside our self-importance. (John 13:1)

2. Love is availability to those who are hurting.

C. Someone who bears fruit. (John 15:8)

III. There are casualties in warfare.

A. Judgment is coming for believers and for nonbelievers. (II Corinthians 5:10, I Corinthians 9:27)

B. There are four basic traps.

1. Fear. (II Timothy 1)

a. The solution is surrender.

b. We must give over to Christ whatever it is we fear.

2. Falsehood. (II Timothy 2)

a. False teachers look like apostles. (II Corinthians 11)

b. We need to keep studying.

3. Flesh. We are to run from the flesh. (II Timothy 3)

4. Fatigue. (II Timothy 4)

a. The solution is selection.

b. Whom one associates with is more important than what one believes.
(Proverbs 13:20)

IV. Conclusion.

Application questions:

1. To which basic trap are you most prone? Explain.

2. Which area of discipleship will you commit yourself to developing more this week the most? Explain.

3. Why is it helpful to view Christianity as warfare?
