

Warfare

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I. Introduction.

II. The battle is on. We are all engaged in it.

A. Our army is a volunteer army.

B. We have responsibilities.

1. To obey. (2 Timothy 2:4)

2. To be accountable to someone.

C. There is no discharge in this army. (Ecclesiastes 8:8; Isaiah 42:14)

D. We have to be disciplined physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually. (1 Corinthians 9; Proverbs 5:23; Psalm 50:16-17)

III. There are some principles of war that are applicable to the battle we are engaged in. We need to be aware of the principles and apply them.

A. The objective: to save the lost. (Luke 19:10; Matthew 28:19-20)

B. The offensive.

1. This is an attitude as well as an action.

2. The aggressor has the advantage.

C. Concentration and cooperation.

D. Mobility and surprise.

1. We can be mobile in prayer.

2. Mobility allows for surprise.

E. Security.

1. Intelligence. (2 Corinthians 2:11)

2. Protection against the enemy. (Ephesians 6; John 14:13; Isaiah 59:19)

3. Taking a final stand. (2 Corinthians 6:17-18; 1 Corinthians 5:10; John 17)

F. Communication, supply and reserve.

1. We need to be in constant communication with Jesus.

2. Christians need to operate with financial, physical, emotional and spiritual reserve in case the enemy attacks in a surprise way.

G. Pursuit. Pursuit is follow up.

IV. Some Christians may show resistance out of laziness or jealousy to the one prepared to do battle. (2 Timothy 3:12; Judges 8:1-3; 5)

V. God may not join the battle because people are not trained enough, people lay back, people are too busy doing their own thing, people want to take credit or people are afraid.

VI. The ultimate victory is won. There are battles to be fought and won in our personal life until the day we receive the final victory in our personal lives, the lives of other people and in the world in God's time. (Ephesians 6:10).

A. The Devil puts pressure on from without and the flesh puts pressure on from within.

B. Breaks in the line are dangerous. (Numbers 3:55)

C. Diversions are dangerous. (Song of Solomon 1:6)

D. Trust God. (Proverbs 22:17; Psalm 37:3; Proverbs 20:24)

E. Our operational plan is faithfulness. (Luke 16:10)

Application questions:

1. Why is it important to view the Christian life as a battle?

2. How would you sum up the principles of biblical warfare?

3. Which principle do you need to develop the most? How will you go about doing this in a practical and measurable way?
