



REAL MOMENTUM for Men
A Man & Spiritual Warfare
Buddy Hulse

Tonight we will only be able to scratch the surface regarding the subject of Spiritual Warfare (SWF.)

SOUND THE ALARM!!!

Want to talk to you concerning the Reality, our Responsibility, our Resources, our Strategy, and our Reward as we fight the battle SWF.

1) REALITY OF SWF;

Ask) What happens if you are in a WAR and do not realize it? YOU ARE TOTALLY HELPLESS!!

TEST; What's going on in your life right now that keeps you DEFEATED? Is it possibly the result of SWF?

(If you believe the bible, NOT just philosophically or theologically, but REALISTICALLY. i.e.' The verses I will read for you are talking about YOU and ME!!) The BIBLE is crystal clear as to the fact that you/I are in a literal battle 24/7. It started in the Garden (Gen. 3) and will terminate when satan is thrown into the Lake of Fire (Rev 20:10)

1 Peter 4:12-13; "Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you; BUT REJOICE, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when His glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.

Eph. 6:12; "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, against principalities, against powers, against rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places."

John 10:10a "The thief comes to steal, kill and destroy; His goal is clear, bondage for the children of God and HE IS NOT PLAYING GAMES.

So, how do you/I handle the reality of SWF in our 24/7 lives. IMAGINE A BATTLEFIELD SITUATION:

1 Peter 5:8; "Be sober, be vigilant(alert watchful), YOUR adversary, the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour(not playing games)." This battle is PERSONAL and YOU and I are the TARGETS (frontline soldiers).

His target; Wife, kids, career, joy, contentment, peace, direction, purpose, motivation, focus, priorities, finances, health, testimonies and anything else that God can use to bring Himself glory.

The precious First Amendment to the U S Constitution will NOT protect you from the attacks of satan. 2 Tim. 3:12 "Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution."

ANOTHER REALITY; THIS IS A WINNABLE WAR!! GOD NEVER INTENDED FOR YOU/I TO LOOSE. Our war has already been won as evidenced by an empty tomb, but God wants you/I to win the daily battles in this life.

John 16:33; "These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation; but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." Romans 8:37; "Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors THROUGH HIM that loved us."

1 John 4:4; "Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world."

2) RESOURCES; Satan's and ours;

Satan's resource is LIES; John 8:44 the FATHER of all lies; BUT, for every LIE, there is a sound biblical TRUTH.

Examples of lies vs truth;

1) JH/D.Pope; relationship, my experience, learn to fight the right enemy

2) You can NEVER survive your past. Phil. 3:13, Paul; "Forgetting those things that are behind."

Peter, Buddy Hulsey, etc.

3) My sin is just too great; Isa. 1:18 "Though your sins be as scarlet."

4) What others think of me defeats me. Col. 2:10 "Ye are complete in Him"

5) Nobody is as bad as me. Rom. 3:23 "For all have sinned."

6) I'm afraid to try; 2 Tim. 1:7 "For I have not given you a spirit of FEAR"

7) I've already blown it and can never be used of God; Gal. 6:1 "Ye who are spiritual restore such a one, lest you also be tempted" Remember Peter, Elijah. Read 2 Cor. 7:8-11

Many, many, many more.

OUR RESOURCES; TRUTH!!!

Dr. Mark Johnson, book, 'Spiritual Warfare for the Wounded' "In order to emerge victorious from our warfare, we need only ONE weapon, THE WORD OF GOD." It is a weapon of offense and defense. If you/I are not in the WORD regularly, we are SPIRITUALLY DEFENSELESS. The word of God is the 'soldiers' handbook for which there is NO SUBSTITUTE!! Eph. 6:17 "And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God." Jesus, Himself, used it 3 times when tempted of satan.

Our RESPONSIBILITIES; (remember the battlefield) involves READINESS which involves;

PREPARATION IS ALWAYS DONE PRIOR TO THE BATTLE, AHEAD OF TIME, NOT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE BATTLE!! Dabo Sweeney; "Always be preparing for the opportunity that may or may not present itself." (18 mths prior to Hunter Renfro catching that pass)

2 Tim. 2:15; "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

i.e.' LEARN HOW TO USE YOUR WEAPON!! Ps. 119:11 "Thy word have I hid in my heart"

Ask) When is our preparation proven or found lacking? IN THE TIME OF BATTLE!! TEST TIME!! If you're not prepared, the result is predictable; Are you prepared for the battles your wife/kids are fighting right now?

Preparation involves being able to recognize the enemy, even when disguised. Remember Jesus recognized satan as he was using Peter. Are their actions/words based on truth and does my response draw me closer to Jesus?

Preparation is NOT just for you, but for all those in your charge; Eph 5:23 "For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the Church." (rem., He GAVE Himself for the Church)

1 Cor. 14:8 "For if the trumpet give an uncertain sound, who shall prepare himself to the battle?" YOU ARE THE TRUMPETIER!! You are to prepare your family for daily battle.

Strategy of Satan;

1) Diminish the Word of God (in Garden)

2) Distract, divert or discourage the WARRIOR of God.

3) Unconfessed sin; an open door to defeat, paralyze you, dilute your testimony, bring reproach on name of Jesus, makes you a 'prisoner of war (takes you off the battlefield) (1 John 1:9) "If we confess our sins"

4) Misplaced priorities; Matt. 6:33 "Seek ye first" You can win at work or church and loose at home. You may have to say 'NO' to a lot of 'good' things.

5) Cause you to feel all ALONE; Gal. 6:2 "Bear ye one another's burdens"

6) Disrupt the lines of COMMUNICATION on the battlefield. Can ONLY be disrupted by our VOLUNTARY SURRENDER OF THEM.

Heb. 13:5; "I will NEVER leave you"

Heb. 4:16; "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need."

Jere. 33:3; "Call unto Me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things which thou knowest not."

John 6:37; "He that cometh to me I will in no wise be cast out."

OUR STRATEGY TO WIN; (rem. the battlefield)

1) Our weapons are NOT conventional weapons; 2 Cor. 10:4; "For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds."

2) Prayer; Eph. 6:18; "Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints." WE WIN BATTLES ON OUR KNEES!!!

3) Faith; Eph. 6:16; "ABOVE ALL" taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quence all the fiery darts of the wicked."

4) Trust; Prov. 3:5-6; "Trust in the Lord with ALL your heart, etc" We DO NOT have to understand all aspects of the battle. Just trust our Commanding Officer and His plan and He will tell us where to go 24/7.

5) Obey the Commanding Officer; Obedience on field of battle is PARAMOUNT!!

6) DO NOT underestimate or diminish your enemy or his resolve to DEVOUR YOU.

7) DO NOT overestimate your strength and fight ALONE; John 15:5; "I am the vine, ye are the branches; He that abideth in me and I in him the same bringeth forth much fruit. For without Me YE CAN DO NOTHING." Remember; Peter was the closest to Jesus and denied Him 3 times after being warned by Jesus.

Eph. 6:10; "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and the power of HIS might."

8) DO NOT hesitate to use professional counseling if need. I did twice!!

9) Pray for WISDOM; James 1:5 "If any man lack wisdom"

10) NEVER, NEVER, NEVER GIVE UP; Gal. 6:9; "And, let us not be weary in well doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

11) WATCH; Matt. 24:43; "But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched and would not have suffered his house to be broken up."

12) Fight smart; 2 Tim. 2:4; "No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of the life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier."

13) Fight COURAGEOUSLY; Joshua 1:9; "Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed; for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest."

OUR REWARD;

Paul; 2 Tim. 4: 7-8; "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day; and not to me only, but unto all them also that love His appearing."

Our future is predictable; 1 John 5:4; "For whosoever is born of God overcometh the world; and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our FAITH."

John 10:10b "But I have come that ye might have life and have it more abundantly." (even in the midst of the battle)

SO, WHERE DO I GO FROM HERE?

Prov. 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord (our Commanding officer) with ALL your heart and lean not," etc

Stay in the book (soldiers handbook for battle)

Stay on your knees (where battle's are won)

The lives/future of those placed in our charge (wives, kids, g.kids, friends, etc) are at stake.

REMEMBER; The battle is long and sometimes hard, and there is a time for REST, but IT IS NOT NOW!!!