

# I DECLARE WAR



**Community Group Discussion: 08.09 - 08.30**

## **I Declare War**

*Whether you recognize it or not, you're at war with yourself. There's anxiety. Selfishness. Self-sabotaging tendencies. Narcissism. The black dog of depression. It is war, but all is not lost. You can win — if you choose to engage. Begin to fill your heart with truth and stop being your own worst enemy. This sermon series is inspired by the book "I Declare War" by Levi Lusko.*

## **Group Discussion**

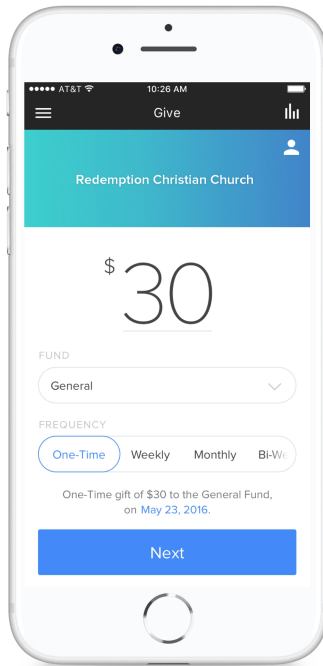
*Romans 7:15, Romans 8:6, Colossians 3:1-4, 2 Corinthians 10:5, Proverbs 15:14*

1. Read Romans 8:6. You can't control every thought that pops into your mind but you can decide what to do with it. What does it mean to let your sinful nature control your mind? What does it mean to let the Holy Spirit control your mind? When do you tend to struggle with this the most?
2. What is one of the most hurtful things someone has said to you? What is one of the most encouraging things someone has said to you? Was it easier to remember the hurtful things or the encouraging things? Why?
3. Christians who conform are driven by their own thoughts rather than God's word. Sexuality, finances, and politics inform behavior. Christians who are transformed are driven by God's word even when it disagrees with them. His truth is the supreme truth of their lives above all else. Do you lean more towards conformity or transformation? Where are you most tempted to conform?
4. "My truth" vs "The truth": "My truth" is a popular phrase in our culture. It's rooted in public opinion, emotions, and personal beliefs above objective facts. "The truth" is rooted in reality, it's what you bump into when you're wrong. Christians believe "the truth" is found in God's word. Where do you see these two things in conflict in the world? Do you ever struggle to submit "My truth" to "The truth" in your own life?

5. Read 2 Corinthians 10:5. What thoughts do you struggle to take captive? Use these questions from Charles Stanley to help:
  1. Where will that thought lead me?
  2. Will these thoughts get me where I want to go?
  3. Are these thoughts scripturally acceptable?
  4. Will these thoughts build up or tear down?
  
6. Read Proverbs 15:14. "Garbage in = Garbage out." We are barraged daily by messages and images in our culture. What garbage are you allowing into your life? Where do you most need to guard your heart and mind and not allow garbage to get in?

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