



SPIRITUAL WARFARE & PRAYER

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New Mercies Christian Church

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In spiritual combat it is important to understand we are not without weaponry.

Although our weapons are not discernible by the flesh, they are mighty through God in dismantling the works of the enemy.

In This Lesson We Will...

Define

- Define Spiritual Warfare

Discuss

- Discuss the foundation of prayer and the benefits of our prayer posture

Discover

- Discover what the Lord has placed in our arsenal and define each weapon

Discuss

- Discuss how each weapon should be strategically deployed in combat

Discuss

- Discuss biblical examples of weaponized prayer strategies

WHAT IS SPIRITUAL WARFARE?

For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. (Ephesians 6:12, NKJV)

- There are two opposing kingdoms. The kingdom of light and the kingdom of darkness.
- Spiritual warfare is the ongoing battle in the spirit realm between these two opposing kingdoms and their desire to rule on earth.
- The forces of darkness intend to separate us from our fellowship with God and undermine our faith in his Son, Jesus Christ.
- The agenda of the forces of darkness is to kill, steal, destroy and create a Godless culture in every region and territory, but the people of God stand in opposition.

WHAT IS SPIRITUAL WARFARE? (CON'T.)

For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. (Ephesians 6:12, NKJV)

- God's agenda is that by faith we establish Godly culture and plant the blood-stained banner of Jesus Christ in every region and territory and to preach and teach the gospel of salvation through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.
- Spiritual Warfare is the struggle that takes place between Satanic forces and the people of God. The enemy's desire is to rob us of our God-given assignment and purpose. BUT – the battle is already won; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ the victory is already ours!

2 CORINTHIANS 10:3-5 (NKJV)

(3)For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. (4)For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, (5)casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,

PRAYER POSTURE

In spiritual warfare, posture always proceeds engagement. Our Prayer Posture is our strategic, fortified position from which we fight.

There are 2 main components of our prayer posture.

1. The first is *submission* and
2. The second is *obedience*.

Both are established by FAITH.

SUBMISSION

Noun: sub·mis·sion | (*səb-'mi-shən*)

From the Greek word *Hupeiko*, which means to retire or withdraw; to yield.

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

(James 4:7, NKJV)

SUBMISSION *(CON'T.)*

- Submission is an act of faith.
- Spiritual warfare begins with submission.
- Submission to God is absolutely critical in being victorious over the enemy.
- You cannot expect to have success in warfare if you are not submitted to the One who enlisted you in the war!
- We cannot fight the enemy without the power and presence of the Holy Spirit.

SUBMISSION (CON'T.)

- It is imperative we understand, to the degree that you are not submitted, it is to that same degree you are both vulnerable and exposed.
- We have access to the covering of God through our submission to his Lordship.
- Submission to God is the beginning of our resistance against the forces of evil.

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.

(ROMANS 12:1, NKJV)

5 BENEFITS OF SUBMISSION

Submission to God brings the blessing of godly direction.

- *Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths (Proverbs 3:5)*

Submission to God brings freedom.

- *Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed (John 8:36)*

Submission to God evokes the protection of God.

- *He shall cover you with His feathers, and under His wings you shall take refuge; His truth shall be your shield and buckler (Psalm 91:4)*

Submission to God draws us closer to God.

- *The Lord is near to all who call upon Him, to all who call upon Him in truth (Psalm 145:18)*

Submission to God brings the favor of God.

- *Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently obey the voice of the Lord your God, to observe carefully all His commandments which I command you today, that the Lord your God will set you high above all nations of the earth (Deut. 28:1)*

OBEDIENCE

Noun: obe·di·ence | (ō- 'bē-dē-ən(t)s)

From the Greek word *Hupakouo*, which means to be under subjection; to obey one in authority.

If you love Me, keep my commandments.

(John 14:5, NKJV)

OBEDIENCE (CON'T.)

“If submission is at the root, obedience will be the fruit”

- Obedience is the result of our total submission to God.
- If submission is the invisible heart posture towards God, then obedience is its visible manifestation and evidence.

Jesus says “Not everyone who says to me Lord, Lord shall enter the kingdom of heaven but he who does the will of my father in heaven.”

(Matthew 7:21)

- Obedience is more than the acknowledgement of who God is, but it is to bring ones will under the will of God.

OBEDIENCE (CON'T.)

“If submission is at the root, obedience will be the fruit”

- Submission is becoming subordinate to the authority of Jesus Christ, thus becoming completely dependent on him.
- Forsaking our limited understanding, choosing rather to yield to the eternal plan, purpose and destiny designed by God for us.

Has the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed than the fat of rams. (1 SAMUEL 15:22)

Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness? (ROMAN 6:16)

But take careful heed to do the commandment and the law which Moses the servant of the Lord commanded you, to love the Lord your God, to walk in all His ways, to keep His commandments, to hold fast to Him, and to serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul. (JOSHUA 22:5)

5 BENEFITS OF OBEDIENCE

God rewards obedience.

- *But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him (Hebrews 11:6)*

Obedience to God enables us to be fruitful.

- *I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing (John 15:5)*

Obedience to God allows us access to His righteousness.

- *For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him (II Corinthians 5:21)*

Obedience to God allows us access to the wisdom of God.

- *He stores up sound wisdom for the upright (Proverbs 2:7)*

Obedience to God gives us access to eternal life in Christ Jesus.

- *Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life (John 5:24)*

Now that we have
discussed and defined our
Prayer Posture, let's
discover what God has
placed in our arsenal.

DECLARATION

Noun: dec·la·ra·tion | (*de-klə-'rā-shən*)

From the Greek word *Anangelo*, which means to announce, report or bring back tidings; to declare or publish abroad.

Whatever I tell you in the dark, speak in the light; and what you hear in the ear, preach on the housetops.

(Matthew 10:27, NKJV)

DECLARATION *(CON'T.)*

- The WORD of GOD is the most powerful weapon we possess.
- A DECLARATION is a declarative statement. It is a divine affirmation whereby we adamantly profess the Word of God as absolute truth.
- The truth of God's Word is DECLARED by faith to crush the lies of the enemy.
- When Jesus was led into the wilderness to be tempted by the adversary, He continually recited the Word of God against the enemy and He emerged victorious.
- In our DECLARATIONS, we speak the Word of God regardless of our circumstances, situations or feelings.

Through this weapon we...

God's truth is our reality, everything else may be factual but facts are temporary. Truth is eternal!

Establish

- Establish the true altar of God by the Word.

Fortify

- Fortify our faith in the WORD OF GOD.

Settle and
ground

- Settle and ground our Spirit man in the Word.

Call forth

- Call forth the blessings of God based on his promises in his WORD.

EXAMPLES OF DECLARATIONS

- I declare, I am the redeemed of the Lord, I will not fear. God calls me His own.
- I declare that when I pass through the waters I will not drown nor will violent wave take me under.
- I declare, when I pass through the fire, I will not be burned nor will the flames of adversity scorch me.
- I declare and proclaim that the Holy One of Israel is the Savior of the World.
- I declare, that I am precious in the sight of God He honors me with His love and affection.

RENUNCIATIONS

Noun: re-nun-ci-a-tion | (*ri-ˌnən(t)-sē-ˈā-shən*)

From the Greek word *Apeipon*, which means disowning the hidden things of shame. It is the formal rejection of something, typically a belief, claim, or course of action.

Every tongue which rises against you in judgement,
you shall condemn.

(Isaiah 54:17, NKJV)

- In spiritual warfare we renounce every evil word spoken or imagined that does not agree with what God says concerning us and our future.
- Since our adversary is continually speaking lies and accusations against us, it imperative that we wage a counter defense through prayer.

Through this weapon we learn to...

We break every accusation and prosecution and we renounce our agreement with the lies of the enemy.

Break

- Break agreement and legal ground with the powers of darkness

Root out

- Root out generational curses and ungodly covenants

Pull down

- Pull down regional strongholds and destroy the yoke of ungodly soul ties

Dismantle
and destroy

- Dismantle and destroy addictions and ungodly habits

Then the Lord put forth His hand and touched my mouth, and the Lord said to me: “Behold, I have put My words in your mouth. See, I have this day set you over the nations and over the kingdoms, **to root out and to pull down, to destroy and to throw down, to build and to plant.”**

(Jeremiah 1:9-10)

EXAMPLES OF RENUNCIATIONS

- Every generational curse that is attempting to replicate in my life is broken and destroyed in the name of Jesus. *(Numbers 14:18)*
- I renounce any agreement I have made with the enemy and ask I for forgiveness. May his plans, schemes, plots and snares be exposed and permanently dismantled in the name of Jesus! *(1 John 3:8)*
- I renounce prayerlessness and indifference in the name of Jesus, and call forth a renewed fervency and enthusiasm concerning the things of God. *(Revelation 3:15-16)*

EXAMPLES OF RENUNCIATIONS

- I renounce all forms of unforgiveness in my heart and I cancel the thoughts, feelings and emotions that tie me to vengeance and retribution in the name of Jesus! *(Colossians 3:13)*
- I renounce all forms of sexual immorality, promiscuity, and perversion and I break agreement with the iniquity associated with lust, adultery and fornication in the name of Jesus!
(1 Corinthians 6:18-20)
- I renounce all manner of physical infirmities and diseases of any kind, sickness is not my portion and no plague can come nigh my dwelling in the name of Jesus! *(Psalm 91:10)*

SUPPLICATION

Verb: sup·pli·ca·tion | (,sə-plə-'kā-shən)

The action of asking or begging for something earnestly or humbly:

From the Greek word *Hiketéria*, which means to entreat as in the extending of an olive branch.

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

(Philippians 4:6-7, NKJV)

SUPPLICATION

- The Bible calls us to practice supplication when we are overcome by emotion or gripped by anxiety and fear.
- Christians can use supplication as a means of entreating God and casting worries upon Him releasing them from our hearts and minds.
- Scripture teaches us that our God is tenderhearted and merciful. Supplication calls forth the mercies of God to manifest and to provide stability during our most difficult and turbulent times.

SUPPLICATION

- Supplication is the prayer of the brokenhearted. God understands the language of your tears.
- Supplication is the place of intimate revealing. It is the place where the mask is removed and you expose your most vulnerable self to the Lord.
- Supplication creates deep communion with God, it is the place where your spiritual ears are tuned.
- Supplication is the act of touching heaven with the things that deeply touch us.

Through this weapon we...

In prayers of supplication, God is not looking for articulation. He's listening for authenticity.

Find

- Find God's peace in the midst of chaos

Implore

- Implore Holy Spirit to move on our behalf

Become

- Become totally naked and vulnerable before the Lord

Draw

- Draw from God's strength in our times of weakness

SUPPLICATION

The Spirit itself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

(Romans 8:26, NKJV)

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken and a contrite heart — These, O God, You will not despise.

(Psalm 51:17, NKJV)

WORSHIP

Verb: wor·ship | (,sə-plə-'kā-shən)

the feeling or expression of reverence and adoration for God:

From the Greek word *proskuneó*,
which means to do reverence to.

The hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers
will worship the Father in spirit and truth.

(John 4: 23-24)

Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the
Lord, our Maker!

(John 4: 23-24)

WORSHIP

- Worship, in both the original Greek and Hebrew, convey the idea of: “to prostrate oneself, to bow down, to fall face down, to pay homage and to pay respect.”
- Worship is the expression of our heart towards God’s worthiness.
- Worship is the highest form of honor and respect that we can show towards God.
- Satan hates worship because worship makes the environment conducive for love.

Through this weapon...

When we set our attention on worship, we begin to remember who God is in the midst of the darkness.

Divine strategies and methods are given (notion, concepts, etc.)

Bondages are broken and chains are destroyed and God's people are set free.

Lives are transformed and the deity of Christ is established.

Worship shifts atmospheres.

BIBLICAL EXAMPLES of WORSHIP

Paul and Silas were put in prison for healing a slave girl who was possessed with a spirit of divination and who brought her masters great profit through fortune-telling. They were flogged and chained with their feet fastened to the stocks in the innermost part of the prison. At midnight, however, as they were praying and singing hymns to God in worship there was a great earthquake, such that the foundations of the prison were shaken, and immediately all the doors were opened, and everyone's chains were loosed.

(Acts 16:16-26)

**WORSHIP BREAKS CHAINS, OPENS PRISON DOORS
AND SETS THE CAPTIVES FREE!**

PRAISE

Verb: (*prāz*)

In the original Greek, "Halal" is the most common word for praise.

This word simply means to boast, brag, or rave about God even to the point of appearing foolish.

From the Greek word *hâlal*, meaning, to bless, exalt, extol, glorify, magnify and thank. To praise God is to call attention to His glory.

I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised; So, shall I be saved from my enemies.

(2 Samuel 22:4, NKJV)

PRAISE

The scriptures declare that there is a “*sacrifice of praise.*” To praise God in difficult times requires personal sacrifice. It takes an act of the will to lay our all on the altar before God, particularly when we don’t understand.

When we bring a “*sacrifice of praise,*” we choose to believe that even though life is not going as we think it should, God is still worthy of our praise.

When we choose to praise God in spite of the storms, He is honored, and our faith grows deeper. The Lord is “enthroned” in our praise”.

PRAISE

But You are holy, enthroned in the praises of Israel. *(Psalm 22:3, NKJV)*

Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name.

(Hebrews 13:15, NKJV)

Through this weapon we...

When we bring a "*sacrifice of praise*," we choose to believe that, even though life is not going as we think it should, God is still worthy of our praise.

Enthroned

- Enthroned God as KING of Kings and LORD of Lords.

Illuminated

- Illuminate the darkness and bring clarity to confusion.

Evoke

- Evoke Holy Ghost fire to burn up the plans of the adversary.

Confuse

- Confuse the enemy!

BIBLICAL EXAMPLES OF PRAISE

(19) Then some Levites from the Kohathites and Korahites stood up and praised the Lord, the God of Israel, with a very loud voice. (20) Early in the morning they left for the Desert of Tekoa. As they set out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, “Listen to me, Judah and people of Jerusalem! Have faith in the Lord your God and you will be upheld; have faith in His prophets and you will be successful.” (21) After consulting the people, Jehoshaphat appointed men to sing to the Lord and to praise him for the splendor of His holiness as they went out at the head of the army, saying: “Give thanks to the Lord, for His love endures forever.” (22) As they began to sing and praise, the Lord set ambushes against the men of Ammon and Moab and Mount Seir who were invading Judah, and they were defeated.

(II Chronicles 20:19-22)

(6) Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. (Psalm 150:6)

CONCLUSION:

As we pray and learn to use biblical strategies in spiritual warfare, we know that in God we win! He has given us the victory already and we walk in faith to achieve it according to His will.

LET'S RECAP....

Spiritual warfare begins with submission and obedience. You cannot expect to wage a successful campaign if you refuse to submit to the One who enlisted you as a soldier.

DECLARATIONS

- To announce report, bring back tidings.
- To declare or publish abroad.
- A declaration is a declarative statement.
- It is a divine affirmation whereby we adamantly profess the Word of God as absolute truth.
- The truth of God's word is proclaimed by faith to crush the lies of the enemy.
- God's Word will never return void.

RENUNCIATIONS

- Disowning the hidden things of shame.
- The formal rejection of something, typically a belief, claim, or course of action.
- In spiritual warfare we renounce every evil word spoken or imagined that does not agree with what God says concerning us and our future.

SUPPLICATIONS

- Supplication is the act of asking or begging for something earnestly or humbly.
- Supplication is the act of touching heaven with the things that deeply you.
- Supplication is the place where “*God breaks our hearts for the things that break His*”.

WORSHIP

- To prostrate oneself, to bow down, to fall face down, to pay homage and to pay respect.”
- Worship is the highest form of honor and respect we can show towards God.

PRAISE

- To bless, exalt, extol, glorify, magnify, and thank. To praise God is to call attention to His glory.
- Praise confuses the enemy.



My Prayer for you...

is that this lesson has blessed you and strengthened you as you continue to fight the good fight of faith.