



Sunday August 04, 2019
Enforcing Victory

This sermon is a continuation of what we heard two Sunday's back on "Battle Zone".

Here is a quick review of what we covered, in that sermon on "Battle Zone":

We said that we are engaged in a spiritual battle with satan and his demonic forces.

We also saw from Scripture that **Satan and all his demons have been crushed, expelled, condemned, disarmed and destroyed!** So we can stand and operate boldly with a sense of complete authority and dominion over the enemy.

We considered satan's game plan.

#1, "Mind games"

Satan primary strategy is "mind games":

blindness (2 Corinthians 4:4) - keep people from knowing the truth

thoughts, arguments, reasoning, and mental strongholds (2 Corinthians 10:4-5)

craftiness to deceive and weaken (corrupt, spoil, ruin, shrivel, wither) (2 Corinthians 11:3; Revelation 20:3)

Satan primarily uses these "mind games" to seek entrance into our lives where he (his demons) can carry out their evil work.

We also considered Paul's instruction to us as believers:

Ephesians 4:27 nor give place to the devil.

'*place*' Greek '*topos*', literally means a spot, a portion or space of land; metaphorically it refers to the opportunity, power, or occasion for acting/doing something (based on Thayer's Greek Definitions)

We submit ourselves to God (James 4:7) and use the spiritual weapons God has given to us to resist the enemy.

Today

we will briefly address two more of satan's strategies on how he and his demons gain entrance into people's lives to carry out their evil work. We will then focus on the main



part of this message, which is to ENFORCE VICTORY, both in our personal lives and in the lives of people we minister to (serve).

#2, Open doors

Here are a few things that provide satan and his demons an open door, a point of entry into a believer's (or any persons) life:

- (A) Sin
- (B) Wrong words
- (C) Situations

Lets briefly explain these:

(A) Sin

un-confessed, un-repentd sin opens the door to the enemy.

unbelief, strife, hate, all kinds of evil, works of the flesh, etc. etc.

As soon as we sin, confess, repent, receive the cleansing of His blood (1 John 1:7,9).

We sin when we yield to our own fleshly weaknesses or to the temptations of the enemy.

Fleshly weaknesses (our indulgences)	Temptations (satan's inducements)
We yield to satisfy our fleshly weaknesses	Satan works upon our weak areas
In both cases, it is <i>our choice</i> to yield to sin	
<p><i>To overcome:</i> Submit to God and His Word (Psalm 119:9) Crucify the flesh with the help of the Holy Spirit (Romans 8:13) Make no provision for the flesh (Romans 13:14) Stay on guard always - Pray (1 Corinthians 10:12-13; Matthew 26:41)</p>	

(B) Wrong words

Words are very important.

God designed it this way.

Life and death are in the power of the tongue (Proverbs 18:21).

Our words invite God or open the door to the enemy.

Words of faith, words aligned to God and His Word, invite God and His angels to work in us and for us.



Words of fear and unbelief, open the door to the enemy.

(C) Situations

We need to be on guard at all times.

Often, in the middle of various situations in life - moments of great triumph (success, victory, accomplishments) or moments of great tragedies (failures, grief, trauma, pressure, etc.) - we are actually very vulnerable because we tend to let our guards down. The enemy uses such occasions to seek entrance.

A quick example is what happened in the Corinthian church. A man had sinned sexually and had to be disciplined. The Corinthian church took the necessary steps. The man seemed to have repented. Paul, instructed them to forgive and reaffirm love to the man. And in this context - in how they were handling this situation as a church community - that Paul says we should not let satan take advantage of us, since we are not ignorant of his devices. Implying that one of his devices is to take advantage of such situations and infiltrate the church community.

2 Corinthians 2:8-11

8 Therefore I urge you to reaffirm your love to him.

9 For to this end I also wrote, that I might put you to the test, whether you are obedient in all things.

10 Now whom you forgive anything, I also forgive. For if indeed I have forgiven anything, I have forgiven that one for your sakes in the presence of Christ,

11 lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices.

Hence we need to be on guard. Think strategically, think preemptively in every situation. "*If I were the enemy, how would I use this situation to attack me*". Put your defenses up in areas of your weaknesses.

#3, Violations and intrusions

Satan and his demons trespass, they seek to gain wrongful entrance, very much like a thief.

In John 10:10 Jesus referred to how the thief operates:

John 10:10



The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

Satan and his demons use these same 3 strategies, (#1)Mind games (#2)Open doors and (#3)Violations and intrusions, when working through the unsaved. Except that they do not face any resistance from the unsaved.

ENFORCING VICTORY

While being aware of satan's methods of operations is important, what is more important is for us to enforce the victory, Christ gained for us through His death and resurrection.

Satan and all his demons have been crushed, expelled, condemned, disarmed and destroyed! So we can stand and operate boldly with a sense of complete authority and dominion over the enemy.

We share in Christ's victory. His victory is our victory. His triumph is our triumph. In fact, He did it all, just for our sakes!

Personal life

In your personal life, stay on guard, keep all doors closed, and live out of the victory Christ has accomplished for you.

You have authority over satan and all his demons.

When the enemy comes against you with his (#1)mind games - casting doubts, fears, lies - resist these. When the enemy seeks entry through (3)violations and intrusions, stand firm and boldly resist these.

James 4:7

Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

resist = to stand against, to oppose,

Enforce Christ's triumph and victory in all areas of your life.

Your marriage,
Your children
Your finances
Your workplace



Your relationships
Your future
Your ministry

When ministering to others

As far as possible first teach them the truth.
Jesus went about preaching, teaching and healing.
The proclamation of the truth, will eliminate the lies of the devil.

Minister with dominion and authority.
Command the works of the devil to be destroyed.

1 John 3:8

..For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.

John 20:21

So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you."

We are here to continue His assignment of destroying the works of the devil!
We do it on the basis of Christ triumph on the Cross.

Satan and all his demons have been crushed, expelled, condemned, disarmed and destroyed! So we can stand and operate boldly with a sense of complete authority and dominion over the enemy.

MINISTRY TIME | SALVATION CALL

WT will sing the song: **You have won the victor's crown** (Hosanna Music! Robert Gay)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h-0ratq3vvI>



LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Sunday August 04, 2019
Enforcing Victory

The is a simple guide for use in Life Group discussions. Our objective is to focus on the application of the Sunday sermon - how each one is becoming a doer of the Word and building their life on God's Holy Word. The Life Group meeting would normally last for 2 hours. Each Life Group would have up to 12-15 people.

Preparation

To prepare for the Life Group meeting, you can listen to the Sermon Key Points (sermon summary in five minutes) or the full length Sunday sermon. You can also review the Sunday Sermon notes. All these are available in the "All Peoples Church Bangalore" mobile App or online at apcwo.org/sermons . Pray for the Life Group meeting and invite the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit.

Welcome

The Life Group meeting may commence with a time of prayer, worship and a fun activity.

LISTEN to God's Word

Read the following Scripture passages: *2 Corinthians 10:3-5; James 4:7; 1 John 3:8*

INVESTIGATE God's Word Together

Please discuss a few of these together, giving time for people to share their insights. We encourage each one individually to make notes of their personal learning during the Group discussion.

- 1) Discuss how the enemy gains entrance into our lives because of: (A) Sin , (B) Wrong words, (C) Situations*

- 2) Satan and all his demons have been crushed, expelled, condemned, disarmed and destroyed! Discuss how we enforce victory in (A)our personal lives and (B)when ministering to others.*

If time permits, each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share one or two key learning and how they see themselves applying it into their specific life situations. Encourage each one to participate and share.



FELLOWSHIP by sharing your life and spiritual journey

Each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share anything from their walk with God, something God has been teaching them, a testimony of answered prayer or a specific challenge that they would like prayer for. Encourage each one to participate and share.

ENCOURAGE each other by praying and ministering to one another

Get into small groups of two or three and take turns to thank God and pray for each other in the light of what was learnt today. Listen to the Holy Spirit. Expect the gifts of the Holy Spirit to flow bringing healing, releasing miracles, prophecy, etc.

Regroup and pray together for:

1, families to be protected and strengthened

2, a mighty outpouring of God's Holy Spirit on us as a church and through us to bless many others in our city and nation. Nothing but a mighty work of God's Spirit can change our city and nation.

3, for the BUILD TO IMPACT project - for God's hand to guide us through the land search and acquisition process, and for finances to be more than enough to get this project done.

Close by thanking God together.