

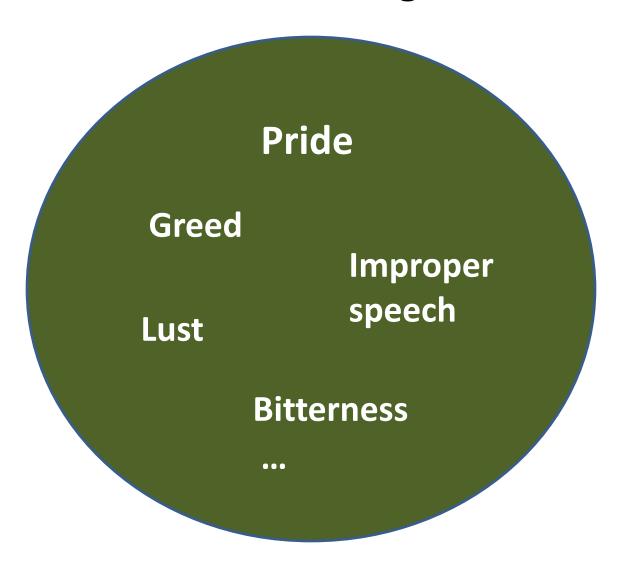
Truth and Faith

CBCWLA, August 28, 2011

Strongholds

- What is a stronghold?
 - A strong is an idea, a thought process, a habit, an addiction through which Satan has set up occupancy in your life a place where he has advantage.
- Three types of strongholds:
 - 1. Personal strongholds
 - 2. Ideological strongholds
 - 3. Cosmic strongholds

Personal Strongholds



Ideological Strongholds

Secularism

Philosophical systems

Value system

Homosexuality

Darwinism

"Tolerance"

Humanism...

Cosmic Strongholds

SATAN

Rulers 執政的

Authorities 掌權的

Powers of this dark world 管轄這幽暗世界的

Spiritual forces of evils in the heavenly realms 天空屬靈氣的惡魔

Disciple's Victory

- Week 1: Overcoming the Enemy
- Week 2: Truth and Faith
- Week 3: Rely on God's Word
- Week 4: Pray in Faith
- Week 5: Look to Jesus
- Week 6: Stand Victorious

Truth and Faith

- 1. The source of truth
- 2. God's truth revealed
- 3. Encountering Satan's Lies
- 4. Faith grounded in truth
- 5. Believing without seeing

As a result of last week's study, you should be able to...

- 1. Define truth;
- 2. Define faith by paraphrasing Hebrews 11:1;
- 3. Develop a plan for showing faith in action;
- 4. Explain the relationship between truth and faith.

Define "truth"

- Truth is
 - God's revelation of himself to you.
 - 1) Jesus is the incarnate Word.
 - 2) The Bible is the written record of God's revelation.

Truth will set you free

- If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free. John 8:31-32
 - 1) The truth Jesus talks about is the truth that represents God's revelation.
 - 2) Continuing in that truth will set you free from sin's captivity.
 - 3) Acknowledging that Christ is the Savior and trusting in him set you free from the fear of death.

How to listen to God's word

- 1. Evaluate what kind hearer you are.
 - A. Apathetic 無動於衷的
 - B. Superficial **膚淺的**
 - C. Preoccupied 心中擁擠的
 - D. Reproducing 結果子的
- 2. Be alert for a word from God.
 - Quick to listen. Slow to speak. Slow to anger.
- 3. Clear away all sin and pride so that the word can be planted in your heart.

4. Pay attention to what the Bible says about you.

- Take notes. Write down the points of the message. Ask..
- What does God say to me through the message?
- How does my life measure up to the word?
- What actions will I take?
- What truth do I need to study further?
- 5. Do the word and be blessed.

Lies people accept as truth

There is no absolute truth

Money is everything

If it feels good, do it

All religions are the same

It's just a life-style choice

Idol worship...

Guide to Praise

Reasons to praise:

- Because God is good. He is wonderful. He is holy and mighty. He deserves to be praised by his own people.
- Because praise is our gift to God.
- Because praise is commanded by God.

How to praise:

- Humble yourself before the Lord.
- Say something that exalts God. Something that glorifies him. Say it from your heart.
- Sing songs.

Faith

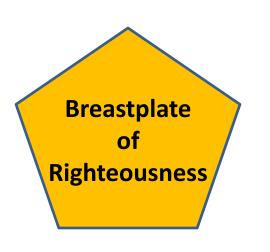
- Faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. *Hebrews 11:1*
 - Faith involves having absolute confidence in something without physical evidence.
 - Faith is believing God's promises as strongly as if they were already objective realities.
 - Faith is being sure that something God promises is a reality waiting to be claimed.
 - Faith pleases God.

Faith in action

- Faith in action uses God's word to know and do God's will.
 - God's word is truth.
 - By faith you believe in God's truth and act on its reality.
 - Be saved by faith.
 - Pray in faith.
 - Understand by faith.
 - Live by faith



- 1. Put on your Identity: Thank God that you are his child.
- 2. Put on your assurance: Praise God for your eternal life.
- 3. Put on the mind of Christ: Claim the mind of Christ.

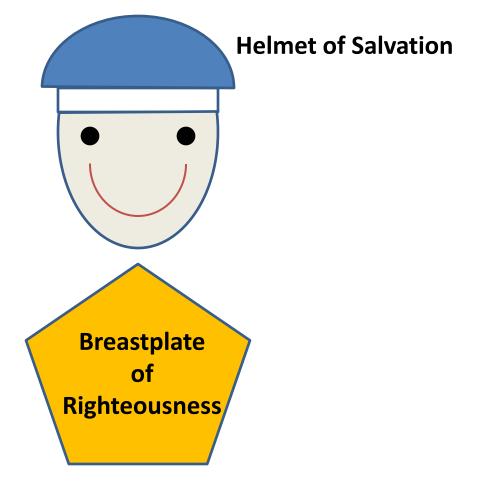


Put on the Breastplate of Righteousness

- 1. Put on a "heart search": Ask God to search your heart to reveal any wicked way in it.
- 2. Put on your confession: Confess any sin.
- 3. Put on Christ's righteousness: Claim Christ's righteousness to cover your sins and to give you right standing with him.

Christian Soldier of CBCWLA

The *partial*Armor of God



Next week's assignment

- Complete "my walk with the Master" on page 43.
 Draw a vertical line in the diamond beside each activity you've completed.
- Use "guide to confession and forgiveness, pp. 54-55" during your prayer time.
- List the names of unsaved persons. Pray for them.
- Witness to a non-Christian.
- Review "the helmet of salvation" and "the breastplate of righteousness." Learn "the Sword of the Spirit."
- Continue to memorize Ephesians 6:10-18.

Small Group Time

- 1. Check each other's "my walk with the Master this week."
- 2. Quote 2 Timothy 3:16-17 to each other.
- 3. Practice: Explain "the breastplate of righteousness" to each other.
- 4. Share: Share about personal strongholds you identified this week as needing to be demolished. How you are working to demolish that stronghold?
- 5. Share: Share the name of a lost person for whom you are praying.
- 6. Pray:
 - 1. Spend time in prayer for the individuals just mentioned.
 - 2. Use the "praise guide" to praise God in prayers.