



Part 13: Our Secret Weapons 2 Cor. 10:1-5

“By the meekness and gentleness of Christ, I appeal to you --I, Paul, who am ‘timid’ when face to face with you, but ‘bold’ when away! I beg you that when I come I may not have to be as bold as I expect to be toward some people who think that we live by the standards of this world.” 2Cor. 10:1-2

Big Idea: My _____ is going to be _____

Key Truths

1. _____ I live on a _____
“For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.” 2Cor. 10:3-4

2. The _____ takes place in _____
“We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.” 2Cor. 10:5

Three Practical Areas to Take Thoughts Captive:

1. My world view

“Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is -- his good, pleasing and perfect will.” Rom. 12:2

My world view needs to be shaped by the _____

2. The character of God

“How great is your goodness, which you have stored up for those who fear you, which you bestow in the sight of men on those who take refuge in you.” Ps. 31:19

God is incredibly _____

3. My worth (See Romans 5:6-8)

I am worth _____ to God.

Daily Meditations

Here’s a chance to spend some time each day this week meditating on today’s topic!

This week’s memory verse: *“For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.” 2Cor. 10:3-4*

Monday

Read 2 Cor. 10:1-5. Look back over your notes from last weekend. What truth from these verses stands out most to you?

What did you learn about life on the “battlefield”?

How have you seen the battle raging around you recently? How can you apply what you learned last weekend to help you?

Thank God today for His word, the Bible. Thank Him that it equips you for all of life. Ask Him to help you apply what you learn and remember that life is more than just what you see. Pray that you’ll be a ready and strong warrior for Him.

Tuesday

Read 2 Cor. 10:1-4, Eph. 6:10-12 & 2 Peter 3:15-18. What do these verses teach you about challenges to your faith? How have you seen this in your own life?

What are some of the ways that the world wages war?

How does knowing that you’re in a spiritual battle help you?

According to these verses, where does your power to fight spiritual battles come from?

How have you tried to fight the world with worldly weapons? What was the result? How does standing behind the power of God change your view of the battle?

Thank God today that you do not have battle the world on your own. Thank Him for His presence with you and for His power at work in you. Pray that you’ll have the wisdom to see the battle and the humility to allow God’s power to work through you. Pray that you’ll be a witness of God’s grace, goodness and power to those around you.

Wednesday

Read 2 Cor. 10:5. This is a verse we should each spend a lifetime applying! Where does the main spiritual battle take place?

Write down the three things you battle most with in your mind.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Spend some extra time in prayer today talking to God about these areas. How will using God's power help you take these thoughts captive?

What practical steps can you take today and this week to more and more take these thoughts captive?

Thank God today for His transforming power. Talk to Him about the struggles and battles that take place in your mind. Ask Him to help you be more aware of thoughts before they take hold in your mind. Pray for victory in the battle for your mind.

Thursday

Read Romans 12:2 & James 1:5. Your world view is almost a subconscious set of choices and it can be difficult to filter. Take some time today and "unwind" your world view. Where have you allowed human wisdom to determine your thoughts?

Think about the last year of your life. How have you seen your walk with God and God's word impact your world view?

What are some practical things you can do to align your world view with God's word?

Thank God today for the Bible. Thank Him for His wisdom He freely gives you. Ask Him to show you areas where your world view needs alignment with His word. Pray for a soft heart that is willing to change.

Friday

Read Psalm 31:19 & Romans 5:6-8. What do these verses tell you about the character and goodness of God? How have you these truths in your life?

What lies about God's love and goodness are you most tempted to believe? What is the link between filling your mind with the truth about God and His love and goodness and taking thoughts captive?

How can you apply these verses to the battles of the mind you face?

Thank God today for His incredible love and goodness. Pray that as you grow in your understanding of His love it will make a difference in your thoughts and actions.

Saturday

Please finish any devotions you may have missed and review the memory verse for the week. Please pray for the services this weekend, that they will glorify and honor God.