

Supplemental Scriptures

Luke 4:18 "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

1 Corinthians 10:3-5 "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. 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."

John 8:44 "...He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies."

Genesis 3:2-5 "...He said to the woman, 'Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden?'' The woman said to the serpent, 'We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'" "You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. 5 "For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

Luke 11:21-22 "When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own house, his possessions are safe. But when someone stronger attacks and overpowers him, he takes away the armor in which the man trusted and divides up his plunder."

Romans 8:5-6 "Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace."

Romans 12:2 "Do not conform 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."

John 8:44 "When (the devil) lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies."

Ephesians 6:10-18 "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes... (Take) the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. And pray..."

Set Free – Ron Marsh

March 08, 2020

Breaking the Stronghold of Lies: 2 Corinthians 10:3-5

Bad News: I am in a spiritual battle with a real enemy that seeks to destroy me and discredit the cause of Christ.

Good News: Jesus came to set me free and empower me to fight from a place of victory.

1. What is a _____?

A prisoner locked by _____

2. Who am I _____ and where is the _____?

The _____ is my enemy and my _____ is the battlefield

*My life moves in the direction of my most _____ thought

3. What are the _____ used against me?

The enemy's primary weapons are _____ and _____

- They appear reasonable and _____
- They contain elements of _____
- They attack God's character and my _____

4. How do I _____ strongholds in my life?

_____ my thoughts

*Take my thoughts captive or they will _____ me.

_____ the lie I'm believing.

*When I _____ a lie, I empower the liar.

_____ it with the truth of God's word.

- My Spiritual Weapons are God's _____ & _____

*Take a " _____ "—see bulletin insert

Life Group Ice Breaker

1. Describe a life experience that involved changing your mind. What were the benefits of changing your mind? What negative things would have happened if you hadn't changed your mind?

Discussion Questions

2. Regarding this sermon, is there any truth that stands out as being particularly helpful, insightful or difficult to grasp?
3. It's been said that "the majority of our problems are not physical but spiritual". Do you agree/disagree? Why/Why not?
4. Read 2 Corinthians 10:3-5 What do you think Paul is trying to communicate to his audience in Corinth? To us today?

Application Questions & Prayer

5. Satan's goal is to destroy you and discredit God and he uses lies and deceit to do it (in fact he'd rather you not know his schemes). Why do you think he attacks our thinking? How does someone know when they are being deceived in their thinking?
6. Read Romans 12:1&2. What "pattern of the world" do you most easily conform to? What do you think it means for you to be "transformed by renewing your mind"?
7. It's been said, "you can't defeat what you can't define"? What would you identify as the stronghold that's holding you back? What's the core lie? What truth in God's word can replace that lie?
8. Share strategies or ways to "arrest" your thoughts and "renew" your mind. See the "Thought Audit" for an example. Where are you asking God to "set you free" during the 21 days of Prayer and Fasting?