



Discussion Guide

For the week of May 17, 2026
You Are A Warrior... Learn To Fight
2 Corinthians 10:1-6

Miss this week's teaching? You can watch it at https://youtu.be/ZaRu9Rg_YWc

Summary

Pastor Jim teaches from 2 Corinthians 10 about spiritual warfare, explaining that Paul was addressing false teachers in Corinth who were undermining his apostolic authority. He emphasizes that followers of Jesus are engaged in a spiritual battle, not against flesh and blood, but against spiritual forces of evil. He explains that many of our conflicts with people are actually rooted in spiritual warfare, and we must use divine weapons rather than worldly methods to fight these battles. Pastor Jim identifies common strongholds like fear, pride, bitterness, and false beliefs that can entrench themselves in our minds and resist God's truth. He presents God's powerful weapons for spiritual warfare: the Word of God, prayer with thanksgiving, faith in action, and obedience through taking every thought captive to Christ. The message concludes with an encouragement that believers can live victoriously and break free from destructive strongholds by using these divine weapons rather than fighting in human strength.

Intro Prayer

Heavenly Father, we come to You today with open hearts and minds, ready to receive what You want to teach us through Your Word. We acknowledge that we are in a spiritual battle, and we need Your wisdom and strength to understand how to fight with Your divine weapons rather than our own human efforts. Help us to be receptive to Your truth and to apply what we learn to our daily lives. Guard our hearts and minds as we study together, and may Your Holy Spirit guide our discussion. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Ice Breaker

Did you ever have a childhood bully? What's one piece of advice you received as a child that helped you deal with that bully?

Key Verses

- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4
- Ephesians 6:12
- Hebrews 4:12
- Philippians 4:6-8

Questions

- How does understanding that our battles are spiritual rather than against people change the way we approach conflicts in our relationships?
- Pastor Jim mentioned feeling spiritual opposition when he steps on stage to preach. Can you share a time when you felt spiritual resistance while trying to do something you knew was right?



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- Which of the strongholds mentioned (fear, pride, bitterness, false beliefs) do you think is most common in our culture today, and why?
- Pastor Jim compared fighting spiritual battles with human weapons to using a slingshot against an F-18 Super Hornet. What are some 'slingshot' methods people commonly use to try to solve spiritual problems?
- How can we practically 'take every thought captive' as Paul instructs? What does this look like in daily life?
- Pastor Jim shared his practice of praying out loud to stay focused. What practical strategies have you found helpful for maintaining focus during prayer?
- The acronym 'TNRPLAP' represents the filter for our thoughts from Philippians 4:8. How might applying this filter change the way we consume media or engage in conversations?
- How can we tell the difference between a legitimate conflict that needs to be addressed and a spiritual battle that requires divine weapons?

Life Application

This week, identify one stronghold in your life (fear, pride, bitterness, or false beliefs) and commit to actively using God's weapons against it. Choose one specific divine weapon - whether it's memorizing a Bible verse, setting aside daily prayer time, or practicing the Philippians 4:8 thought filter - and use it consistently for seven days. Keep a simple journal of how this spiritual weapon impacts your thoughts and responses throughout the week.

Key Takeaways

- Our real battles are spiritual, not against flesh and blood people, but against spiritual forces of evil
- Common strongholds include fear, pride, bitterness, and false beliefs that resist God's truth in our minds
- God has given us divine weapons that are far more powerful than any human methods: His Word, prayer with thanksgiving, active faith, and obedient thinking
- We must actively use these spiritual weapons rather than passively waiting for attacks
- The same power that raised Jesus from the dead is available to us for victory over spiritual strongholds

Ending Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank You for reminding us today that we are not fighting alone and that You have equipped us with divine weapons for every spiritual battle we face. Help us to remember that our struggles are not against the people in our lives, but against spiritual forces that seek to destroy us. Give us the wisdom to use Your Word, prayer, faith, and obedient thinking as our weapons rather than relying on our own strength. Break down any strongholds of fear, pride, bitterness, or false beliefs in our lives, and help us to walk in the victory You have already won for us. May we live as the victorious warriors You have called us to be, bringing Your peace and love into every relationship and situation we encounter. In Your powerful name we pray, Amen.