

PREPARING FOR LIFE'S BATTLES

LAST WEEK'S MESSAGE

In the book of Joshua chapter 5, the Israelites are getting ready for their first battle inside the Promised Land after crossing the Jordan River. There are four experiences that God brought the Israelites and Joshua through to get them battle-ready. These experiences can also teach us principles that will prepare us for life's challenges.

CONSECRATION: "THE LORD IS MY MASTER!" (JOSHUA 5:1-9)

Consecration is a key factor in preparing for life's battles, as it involves dedicating oneself completely to the service and worship of God. It involves unconditional surrender to God and is a demonstration of one's belief in God's sovereignty and mastery over their life. Consecration is symbolized by the covenant of circumcision, which was a sign of a person belonging to God and being set apart for His purposes. Circumcision was not just a physical act — it also symbolized the cutting away of sinful and worldly ways, and a circumcision of the heart. The key to victory in life's battles is to surrender. It is by surrendering oneself to God that we can tap into His power and strength. Furthermore, when we consecrate ourselves to God, it brings us into a close relationship with Him, where we can receive His guidance, provision, and protection.

CELEBRATION: "THE LORD IS MY SAVIOR!" (JOSHUA 5:10)

While in Gilgal, the Israelites celebrated the Passover, a significant event celebrated by the new generation who had dedicated themselves to the Lord. God's timing was perfect as He led them to the Promised Land just in time for the Passover celebration, fulfilling His command in Exodus 12:1-7. The lamb that was sacrificed during the Passover symbolizes Jesus, our Passover Lamb, as noted in Matthew 26:2, John 1:29, and 1 Corinthians 5:7. Today, we commemorate Jesus' sacrifice through the Lord's Supper, which reminds us of His death on the cross to forgive our sins. This celebration prepares us for the ultimate battle (death), and those who trust in Jesus as their Savior can look forward to an eternal, joyful existence in God's presence.

LAST WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE

He said, "No; rather I indeed come now as captain of the host of the LORD." And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and bowed down, and said to him, "What has my lord to say to his servant?"

JOSHUA 5:14

CONFIDENCE: "THE LORD IS MY PROVIDER!" (JOSHUA 5:11-12)

In Joshua 5, the Israelites are given confidence to face life's battles through their experience of God's provision. God provides food from the land to the new generation of Israelites after the first Passover celebration and stops their supply of manna the next day (v. 11-12). This was meant to show the Israelites that they need more than just physical food to live — they also need God and His word (Deuteronomy 8:2-3). This experience of God's provision taught the Israelites that they can trust God to provide for all their needs. In the same way, when we experience God's provision in our own lives, it gives us confidence to face other battles. For example, if we trust in God during a time of need, such as during a pandemic, and He provides for us, it can help us have the confidence to face other challenges that come our way. We can trust that God will continue to provide for us, just as He did for the Israelites.

COMPLETE OBEDIENCE: "THE LORD IS MY COMMANDER!" (JOSHUA 5:13-15)

When the Lord is your commander, it means you will obey His every command and accept whatever He allows. Joshua encountered this principle as they approached Jericho (vv. 13-15). He was confronted by a mysterious being who identified themselves as the captain of the LORD's army. Joshua fell on his face, and took off his sandals when commanded to, recognizing that he was in a holy place in that encounter. It is highly likely that Joshua came face-to-face with Jesus Himself! Joshua realized that he was before a holy God, and he had to humble himself and submit his heart to God before receiving any commands.

By consecrating ourselves to God, celebrating His sacrifice, having confidence in His provision, and being completely obedient to His commands, we will be prepared to face life's battles. The Lord is our Master, Savior, Provider, and Commander, and with Him, we will experience victory.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Based on today's message, how can you best prepare for the challenges you face?

Encourage others in your Dgroup or family by sharing how the Lord is your Savior and Provider.

In what areas of your life do you need to completely obey the Lord as your Master and Commander?

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Chronicle online!

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Download **this Sunday's 4Ws Small Groups Guide and 4Ws Go Viral Edition every Monday!**

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Welcome to CCF!

Get to know
God's perfect love!

Visit the Welcome Center
at the 2nd floor lobby

LOOKING FOR ANSWERS? THINK YOUR
VISIT IS A COINCIDENCE? YOUR BEING
HERE TODAY IS NO ACCIDENT!

God brought you here for His purpose.

step into the **COMMUNITY!**

Fellowship and learn together with
believers at the same lifestage as you!



WOMEN2WOMEN

ALL WOMEN

Victoriously Managing Basic Life Components (Body, Mind, Heart, Spirit, Time)

with **Dr. Bethel Schnitzlein**

February 23, Thursday

10:00 AM, Multi-Purpose Hall

ALSO STREAMED ONLINE



ccfwomen2women



CCFWomen2WomenMinistry



B1G MINISTRY

SINGLES

On break and will resume on March 3.



B1GMinistry



beonewithgod



ELEVATE

YOUTH

Trusting Love... Again

February 18, Saturday

3:00 PM, Multi-Purpose Hall

ALSO STREAMED ONLINE



ElevateMain



ElevateMainTV



NXTGEN

KIDS FROM 4-12 YEARS OLD

Kids' Church: Victorious: Series on the Book of Joshua

Sundays, 10:00 AM and 3:00 PM

G/F North Wing, CCF Center

ALSO STREAMED LIVE ONLINE



ccfnxtgen for ages 4-12



for ages 7-12

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GLC Level 1 — Face-to-Face

Session 1 starts February 19

Sundays at 1:00 PM

- Book 1: One by One, Room 2A
- Book 2: Spiritual Disciplines, Room 3A

GLC Level 1 — Zoom Cycle 1

starts February 22, Wednesday, 7:30 PM

- Book 1: One by One
- Book 2: Spiritual Disciplines

GLC Level 2 — Zoom Cycle

Book 7: Family Life

Session 2: Roles of Husband and Wife

February 16, Thursday, 7:30 PM

GLC Level 3 Lead — Zoom Cycle

Module 6: Soul Care, Session 1

February 23, Thursday, 7:30 PM

Go to bit.ly/GLCTraining2023 to register

Watch out for the GLC in Small Groups Launch!

coming this February

Listen to our new series on Spotify!

ccf On Air

deep dive

Into the Book of Romans

1 God loves you.

He desires for you to have a meaningful life with Him in the present and gain eternal life with Him in the future.

*Know therefore that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God, who **keeps His covenant and His lovingkindness** to a thousandth generation with those who love Him and keep His commandments* —Deuteronomy 7:9

2 God is holy.

We are sinful, and our sin separates us from Him.

Everyone has sinned and is far away from God's saving presence. — Romans 3:23

3 God is merciful.

In His love, He made the only way for us to be reconciled to Him: through His son, Jesus Christ. Jesus had to die on the cross for our sins and be raised to life for eternity.

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. — Romans 5:8

I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me. — John 14:6

4 God is gracious.

By placing our faith in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven of our sins and saved from eternal death.

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. — John 3:16

For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. — Ephesians 2:8-9

5 God keeps His promises.

You can be sure that you have eternal life when you trust in Jesus.

And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life. 1 John 5:11-13



join us on Sundays

AT CCF CENTER

10:00 AM (English),

3:00 PM (Filipino)

ONLINE

10:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM, 6:00 PM



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