



Week 2:

The Battle Season

Psalms 144

A. Victory is in the Training

1. Train by praising God's care.

"Praise to the Lord my Rock, Who trains my hands for war, my fingers for battle." Psalms 144:1 (NIV)

2. Train by acknowledging God's role.

"He is my loving God and my fortress, my stronghold and my deliverer, my shield, in Whom I take refuge, Who subdues peoples under me." Psalms 144:2 (NIV)

3. Train by humbling our status.

*"Lord, what are human beings that You care for them, mere mortals that You think of them? They are like a breath; their days are like a fleeting shadow."
Psalms 144:3-4 (NIV)*

4. The exercise of Psalm 144:1-3

*"I don't know about you, but I'm running hard for the finish line. I'm giving it everything I've got. No lazy living for me! I'm staying alert and in top condition. I'm not going to get caught napping, telling everyone else all about it and then missing out myself."
1 Corinthians 9:26-27 (MSG)*

B. Victory is Personal

1. There is beauty in the new.

*"I will sing a new song to You, my God; on the ten-stringed lyre I will make music to You."
Psalms 144:9 (NIV)*

2. There is beauty in knowing Who God is.

"To the One Who gives victory to kings, who delivers His servant David." Psalms 144:10a (NIV)

3. There is beauty in battle.

"From the deadly sword deliver me; rescue me from the hands of foreigners whose mouths are full of lies, and whose right hands are deceitful." Psalms 144:10b-c (NIV)

4. The exercise of Psalm 144:9-10

"Keep a cool head. Stay alert. The devil is poised to pounce and would like nothing better than to catch you napping. Keep your guard up. You're not the only ones plunged into these hard times. It's the same with Christians all over the world. So keep a firm grip on the faith. The suffering won't last forever. It won't be long before this generous God Who has great plans for us in Christ—eternal and glorious plans they are!—will have you put together and on your feet for good. He gets the last word; yes, He does." 1 Peter 5:8 (MSG)

C. Four Big Battles We Face

1. Stress-induced anxiety

2. Drugs/Addiction

3. Coping with loss (Bereavement)

4. Spiritual warfare

"And that about wraps it up. God is strong, and He wants you strong. So take everything the Master has set out for you, well-made weapons of the best materials. And put

*them to use so you will be able to stand up to everything the devil throws your way. This is no weekend war that we'll walk away from and forget about in a couple of hours. This is for keeps, a life-or-death fight to the finish against the devil and all his angels."
Ephesians 6:10-12 (MSG)*

D. Bring Out Your Warrior Gear

1. Practice discipline.

2. When others quit, keep going.

3. Work on your core.

4. Gather your tools.

5. Adapt to the flow.

6. Change your language.

7. Build your team.

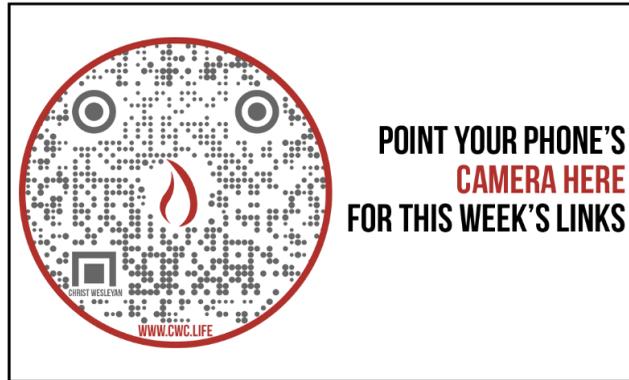
"I've told you all this so that trusting Me, you will be unshakable and assured, deeply at peace. In this godless world you will continue to experience difficulties. But take heart! I've conquered the world." John 16:33 (MSG)

Bottom Line: Battles are won before they begin.

To begin a relationship with Jesus...

Text: IChooseJesus to 570-273-0088

Next Sunday: Pastor Branden
Anthem: A Psalm for Every Season
Week 3: The Testing Season



Giving and Attendance Update

Giving last Sunday: 123.8%

Giving year to date: 97.6%

Last Sunday weekend attendance: 1,826

Salvations to date: 15 | Baptisms to date: 7

Upcoming Happenings:

June 16-18 *Agatha Christie's Murder on the Orient Express Performances*

June 21-24 **Kidz Camp**

July 9 **Valley Fest (with fireworks)**

July 10 **Outdoor Service (10a)/Baptisms**

July 25-29 **CWC Youth Camp**

Get all the info & register: cwc.life/events