



Winning The Battle Keith Taylor Jan 5/6, 2019

Fight the good fight of faith... 1 Timothy 6:12 (NASB)

The Bible uses various metaphors to describe the life of a Christ-follower. One of those is a soldier. What are the battles that we will face in 2019, and what is the secret to living in victory?

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Ephesians 6:12 (NIV)

What are some of the many battles that we will face this year?

1. The Struggle Between Selfishness and Servanthood

What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? James 4:1(NIV)

2. The Battle Between Forgiveness and Bitterness

Watch out that no bitterness takes root among you, for as it springs up it causes deep trouble, hurting many in their spiritual lives. Hebrews 12:15b (TLB)

If you are angry, don't sin by nursing your grudge. Don't let the sun go down with you still angry—get over it quickly... Ephesians 4:26 (TLB)

3. The Battle Between what's Easy and What's Right

The sinful nature wants to do evil, which is just the opposite of what the Spirit wants. And the Spirit gives us desires that are the opposite of what the sinful nature desires.

These two forces are constantly fighting each other, so you are not free to carry out your good intentions. Galatians 5:17 (NLT)

What will you fight with in order to win?

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... 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 (NIV)

1. Draw Faith from God's Word.

...Take the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God. Ephesians 6:17 (NLT)

2. Draw Support from God's People

We are in this struggle together. Philippians 1: 30 (NLT)

Let us not neglect our church meetings, as some people do, but encourage and warn each other... Hebrews 10:25 (NLT)

A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better ...Ecclesiastes 4:12 (NLT)

3. Draw Power from God's Spirit

But you belong to God You have already won a victory ... because the Spirit who lives in you is greater than the spirit who lives in the world. 1 John 4:4(NLT)

For every child of God defeats this evil world, and we achieve this victory through our faith. And who can win this battle against the world? Only those who believe that Jesus is the Son of God. 1 John 5:4-5 (NLT)

Paul: "I have FOUGHT the good fight, I have FINISHED the race, and I have KEPT the faith!" 2 Timothy 4:7 (NIV)