

The Path To Victory

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SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Based on the message by Pastor Willie Russell

1. SERMON RECAP

Pastor Willie Russell preached a powerful Father's Day message reminding the congregation that every believer already possesses the victory that Jesus purchased at the cross -- the challenge is learning to walk it out daily. He challenged us to understand that our path to victory is personal, ongoing, and fought not with earthly weapons like worry and fear, but with spiritual weapons like praise, prayer, and the Word of God. He encouraged the group that no matter what "wall" we are currently facing, Jesus is standing right beside us -- sword drawn -- ready to fight on our behalf.

2. KEY SCRIPTURE

Joshua 3:13 (NKJV)

"And it shall come to pass, as soon as the soles of the feet of the priests who bear the ark of the LORD, the Lord of all the earth, shall rest in the waters of the Jordan, that the waters of the Jordan shall be cut off, the waters that come down from upstream, and they shall stand as a heap."

3. ICE BREAKER

Think about a time you celebrated a win -- big or small. What did that victory look like, and how did you celebrate it?

4. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Pastor Russell pointed out that God gave Joshua a completely different path to victory than he gave Moses -- even though the result looked similar (water parting). Has anyone in the group ever expected God to move in your life the same way He moved for someone else? What happened when He didn't follow that script?

2. Pastor Russell used the image of Jesus standing beside Joshua at Jericho with His sword already

drawn, ready for battle. In John 10:10, Jesus says the thief comes to steal, kill, and destroy. What are some specific "weapons" the enemy uses in everyday life that the group has personally encountered? How does it change your perspective to know Jesus is already positioned and ready for the fight?

3. Pastor Russell made a striking visual illustration -- demonstrating how many believers drop down to the enemy's level to fight, rather than fighting from the position of authority described in Ephesians 1. He reminded us that we are seated "far above" principalities and powers. What does it practically look like in your daily life to fight from a position of victory rather than fighting *for* a victory you don't yet believe you have?

4. Pastor Russell was honest and vulnerable when he said, "It's easy to preach victory when you're victorious -- it's when you're struggling that it gets real." Have you ever been in a season where the Word of God felt more like a nice concept than a lived reality? How did you -- or how are you -- navigating that tension?

5. He challenged the group that our spiritual battles often require natural obedience -- paying tithes during financial struggle, making healthier choices during a health battle, turning off tempting content during a battle with lust. Where have you seen that principle -- spiritual victory connected to natural obedience -- proven true in your own experience?

6. Pastor Russell closed by asking, "What wall are you standing at right now?" He reminded us that the victory is already ours in Christ -- but we have to keep walking it out daily, just like the priests had to keep marching around Jericho. What is one "wall" in your life right now where you sense God asking you to keep walking even when the wall hasn't fallen yet?

5. APPLICATION CHALLENGE

This week, identify one specific area of your life where you have been fighting with earthly weapons -- worry, doubt, fear, or avoidance -- instead of spiritual ones. Choose one spiritual weapon from this list and intentionally use it every day for seven days in that area: daily praise (spoken out loud), Scripture confession (finding and declaring a specific verse over the situation), or prayer in the Holy Spirit (dedicated, intentional prayer time specifically about that battle). At your next group meeting, be ready to share what you noticed when you shifted your approach.

6. PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for revelation -- that every member of the group would receive a deep, settled conviction in their spirit that they are already victorious in Christ, not based on circumstances but based on the finished work of the cross.

- Pray for the walls -- specifically lift up the "Jerichos" in group members' lives, whether that is a health challenge, a financial struggle, a broken relationship, or a spiritual battle, asking God to send His presence to

stand beside them just as He stood beside Joshua.

- Pray for perseverance -- that when victory is slow in coming and the path looks uncertain, the group would have the courage and faith to keep walking, keep praising, and keep trusting God's Word over what their natural eyes can see.

7. MEMORY VERSE

Romans 8:37 (NKJV)

"Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us."

"He's never lost a battle, and He never will."

-- Pastor Willie Russell