

THEME: WHO I AM IN CHRIST

TOPIC: I'M AN OVERCOMER

TEXT: 1 JOHN 2:14; 1 JOHN 5:4-5; EPHESIAN 6:11-17

Introduction

I write to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the evil one. 1 John 2:14.

The Greek word most often translated “overcomer” stems from the word “nike” which, according to Strong’s Concordance, means “to carry off the victory. The verb implies a battle.”

1. Battle ground not a playground – Ephesians 6:11-17

The Bible teaches Christians to recognize that the world is a battleground, not a playground. God does not leave us defenceless. The text describes the armour of the Lord available to all believers. Scattered throughout this narrative is the admonition to “stand firm.” Sometimes all it takes to overcome temptation is to stand firm and refuse to be dragged into it. James 4:7 says, “Resist the devil and he will flee from you.”

Q: How do we ensure that we win in the battle of life?

2. An overcomer is one who resists sin no matter what lures Satan uses – 1 John 5:4-5

When we walk in union with Jesus we can overcome temptation, we can reject the material things of the world, and the fiery darts of the evil one. When you feel as if there is no fight left inside you, lift your voice to call your father and you will feel His Spirit rise up inside your soul and give you strength to be an overcomer. He alone holds the power you need to persevere in any battle. He is your strength when you are weak. By His power, you will conquer any spiritual enemy that attacks you.

Q: Why is it important to stay close to the father for strength to overcome?

3. Overcoming is about enduring – Matthew 24:13, Hebrews 3:14

Overcoming is often equated with enduring. Jesus encouraged those who followed Him to “endure to the end”. A true disciple of Christ is one who endures through trials by the power of the Holy Spirit. An overcomer clings to Christ, no matter how high the cost of discipleship.

Q: What does it mean to cling to Christ?

4. Overcoming is about winning the battle of the mind – 2 Corinthians 10:4-5

Shield your mind with truth and be careful about what you allow yourself to read, watch, and even think. The enemy will try to invade your mind with sinful thoughts. Do not allow him to get a foot hold! Keep your shield up against his fiery darts. Flee from whatever thought weakens your walk with God. You can take control of your thoughts by immersing yourself in the Word.

Q: Why is winning the battle of the mind essential to being an overcomer?

5. Never underestimate the power of prayers – Ephesians 6:18

God wants you to confidently call on heaven so you may see His mighty hand move on earth. One day, on the other side of eternity, you will see how your prayers affected and protected many lives during your life.

Q: Why is prayer key to living a victorious life?

6. We have heaven's backing – Isaiah 54:17, James 4:7

No weapon formed against you can or will destroy you, because you belong to God. You have the power in His name to demolish anything the devil uses to attack you. Make up your mind to fight in His power, and take authority where he has given you authority.

Q: What does the knowledge that heaven is behind us do for our confidence in being victorious?

Conclusion

I am an overcomer! We have victory because of Jesus and what He did for us we can be overcomers over whatever life brings our way. Nothing can destroy us or pull us down!

God desires you to be a brave believer after His heart. You can walk in the perfect love of Christ, in which there is no fear. Spend time with Him for courage and confidence and you can fearlessly face and overcome any enemy in the name of Jesus.

In the book of Revelation, Jesus promised great rewards to those who overcome. Overcomers are promised that they will eat from the Tree of Life (2:7), be unharmed by the second death (2:11), eat from hidden manna and be given a new name (2:17), have authority over the nations (2:26), be clothed in white garments (3:5), be made a permanent pillar in the house of God (3:12), and sit with Jesus on His throne (3:21). Jesus warned that holding fast to Him would not be easy, but it would be well worth it.