

Gain the UPPER HAND



OCTOBER 2022



We've all experienced situations that seemed to come out of nowhere. They ambushed us and left us devastated, discouraged, or frustrated. Things don't just happen by coincidence; Satan uses bad situations as a weapon to attack us spiritually. We're engaged in spiritual warfare with the enemy, but knowing God's Word in this area helps us win the battle.

Spiritual warfare isn't something we can see with our physical eyes, but it's very real. It's taking place right now in our minds. Just like in a military battle in the physical realm, we're fighting against opposing forces that want to steal, kill, and destroy us. *"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places"* (Ephesians 6:12). We're sunk if we don't even know we're right in the middle of a war. That's why this is mission-critical information.

Our enemy is busy devising strategies to bring us down. He customizes each strategy to us personally to attack our weak points. However, he's not invincible. The Word is more powerful than any demonic attack, and we can wear it like a suit of armor. *"Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may*

be able to stand against the wiles of the devil" (Ephesians 6:10, 11).

Jesus has already defeated the devil and stripped him of his authority. The only thing the enemy has now to use against us is trickery, lies, and the power of suggestion. We now hold the power, but we'll unwittingly hand it over to the enemy if we fall into the traps he sets for us. Thankfully, if we know how to fight this battle, the devil will never be able to gain access to our thought lives.

The key to winning is learning to think like God. This requires renewing our minds. *"And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God"* (Romans 12:2). We gain the upper hand in the fight when we stop thinking and acting like the world and align our thoughts with God's thoughts. This is when we'll start removing all the world's limitations and agreeing with our Father, who has no limitations or boundaries.

This renewal is an ongoing process. In comparison to getting born again, which is a one-time event, renewing our minds will take the rest of our lives. It involves the exchanging of our thoughts, opinions, and values with God's thoughts, opinions, and values. It's a gradual thing and can only be done through constant study of and meditation on the Word.

THE KEY TO WINNING

We are spirit beings possessing souls and living in physical bodies. The most important thing we could ever do in our lives is to get born again; as born-again Christians, the second most important thing is to begin the process of renewing our minds. This is because when we get saved, our spirits are the only part of us that have been renewed. Our souls—which is where our mind, will, and emotions reside—are still the same.

An unrenewed mind with its defenses down is exactly where Satan focuses his attack. This is where he slides in and does his dirty work. The proper way of renewing our minds is not to align our thought lives with the Law of Moses, which causes, guilt, shame, and sin-consciousness, but to align them with the grace of Jesus Christ. Getting under the right teaching is everything.

How we think determines what we do. Addictive behaviors are the result of fortified thoughts the enemy has planted. We fight back by being good custodians of our thought lives, which destroys those fortifications. *"For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God*

to the pulling down of strong holds; Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ" (2 Corinthians 10:4, 5). We maintain our victory by paying attention to our thinking as closely as a sentry on duty watches for the enemy.

Taffi and I love you and pray for you every day. May the blessing of God be on you and your family. Remember, Jesus is Lord, and *"...in all of your getting, get understanding."*

In Expectation,



Creflo Dollar

P.S. Don't forget to download this month's free message.

Download *Winning in Spiritual Warfare* at creflodollarministries.org/CDMFreeMessage

"FINALLY, MY BRETHREN, BE STRONG IN THE LORD, AND IN THE POWER OF HIS MIGHT. PUT ON THE WHOLE ARMOUR OF GOD, THAT YE MAY BE ABLE TO STAND AGAINST THE WILES OF THE DEVIL" (EPHESIANS 6:10, 11).

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OCTOBER CONFESSIONS



ALIGNED *with God*

I am a good custodian of my thought life.
(Psalm 119:59)

I exchange my thoughts, values, and
opinions for God's. (Romans 12:2)



2022 Ministers & Leaders CONFERENCE

OFF THE RECORD

OCT.
4-5



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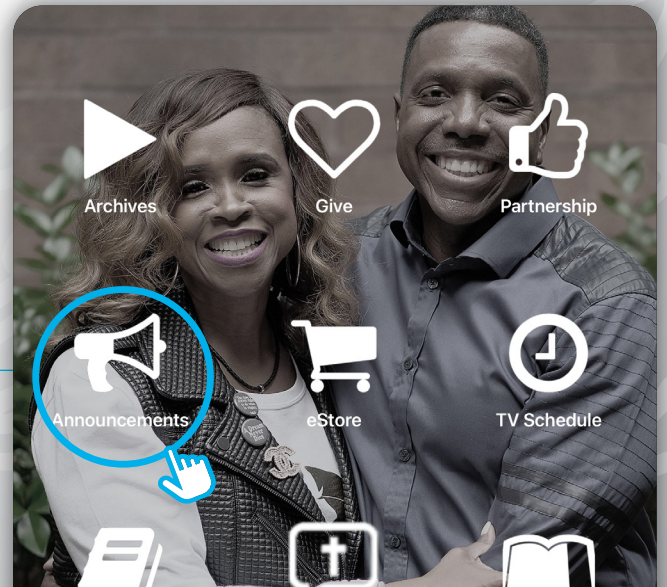
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Every last Friday of the month at 4PM BST

1-877-236-8787

Meeting ID: 472 893 728#

Join with Partners from all over the World on **Friday, 28 October** and the last **Friday of each month at 4pm BST** as we pray corporately for the body of Christ.

* Please note, this is a USA phone number and long distance charges may apply **



HELPING UKRAINIAN REFUGEES IN JESUS' NAME

A place to learn and play

Kateryna Postor, a refugee from Chernihiv, Ukraine, arrived in Warsaw at the beginning of the conflict in March. Before the conflict, she worked as a kindergarten teacher.

Through the support of Samaritan's Purse, Kateryna was hired to overlook the teenager's space at the Global Expo. When the conflict started, she left her job, home, and dreams in her home country. Although it's not the same as before, she is grateful that she can reclaim a part of what the conflict has stripped from her, which is her identity as a teacher.

"It's so important for the kids from Ukraine to have a safe space, to have fun, to rest physically but to also rest from the trauma. This is a space where they can try and forget about the conflict and enjoy being children and have fun," said Kateryna.

The support raised for these projects also funded free Polish lessons for women to broaden their employment potential as they look to rebuild their lives in this new country. The centre sees over 60 Ukrainian women each day come in to access their programmes.

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OUR VISION

As we proclaim Jesus, the Christ, as the Head of the Church and the manifested Word of God, our goal is to teach the Word of God with simplicity and understanding so that it may be applied to our everyday lives in a practical and effective manner; thereby being transformed into World Changers—changing our immediate world and all those with whom we come in contact—ultimately making a mark that cannot be erased.

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