

# BLESSINGS ON BATTLEFIELDS

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## SERMON NOTES:

*A thief is only there to steal and kill and destroy. I came so they can have real and eternal life, more and better life than they ever dreamed of.*

— **John 10:10 (MSG)**

God's desire is for you to live a life beyond this life.

5 ways to find blessings on battlefields:

### 1. Know God intimately.

God desires a relationship with you.

*He has planted eternity in the human heart, but even so, people cannot see the whole scope of God's work from beginning to end.*

— **Ecclesiastes 3:11 (NLT)**

*Let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us.*

— **Hebrews 12:1b (NLT)**

### 2. Grow yourself daily.

*Therefore let us leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to maturity...*

— **Hebrews 6:1 (BSB)**

*But be doers of the word, and not hearers only...*

## *Hope City*

— **James 1:22 (NKJV)**

*Apply your heart to instruction and your ears to words of knowledge.*

— **Proverbs 23:12 (NIV)**

Growth doesn't come from learning – but application.

*Give us this day our daily bread.*

— **Matthew 6:11 (BSB)**

There's a big difference in learning the word and leaning on it.

A moment with God can fix a lifetime of problems.

### **3. Connect with others regularly.**

*You are members of God's very own family, citizens of God's country, and you belong in God's household with every other Christian.*

— **Ephesians 2:19 (TLB)**

*Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help.*

— **Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 (NLT)**

*Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed.*

— **James 5:16 (NIV)**

### **4. Share Christ effectively.**

*God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us.*

— **2 Corinthians 5:19-20 (NIV84)**

**5. Serve others passionately.**

*Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.*

— **1 Peter 4:10 (NIV84)**

*“You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you,” declares the LORD.*

— **Jeremiah 29:13-14 (NIV)**

## **DISCUSSION GUIDE:**

1. Do you have an intimate relationship with God?
  - If so, how do you maintain this relationship?
  - If not, what are some steps you can take this week to know God more intimately?
2. In his message, Pastor Jeremy encouraged us to grow ourselves daily.
  - What areas in your life do you want to or need to grow in?
  - How can you apply the necessary changes in your life to see growth occur?
3. Are you connected to other believers?
  - If not, how can you take that next step this week? (For more info on leading or joining a virtual Connect Group, check out [hopecity.com/groups](http://hopecity.com/groups)).
4. The thought of sharing Christ with someone can seem overwhelming and even scary sometimes. What ways can you practice sharing Christ this week so that you can be prepared the next time you have the opportunity to share your story?
5. 1 Peter 4:10 says “Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms.”
  - What gifts do you feel the Lord has given you?
6. How can you be proactive about serving others this week?