

BLESSINGS ON BATTLEFIELDS

SERMON NOTES:

We are staying home, but your faith can't stay home.

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

– **Ephesians 2:10 (NASB)**

Comfort and callings don't go hand in hand.

I press on toward the goal for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

– **Philippians 3:14 (WEB)**

Define Your BATTLEFIELD

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, 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 12:1 (NLT)**

Distractions are dangerous.

The Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!

– **Galatians 5:22-23 (NLT)**

The goal of a thief is to get you to believe that he's not there.

Hope City

I don't really understand myself, for I want to do what is right, but I don't do it. Instead, I do what I hate.

— **Romans 7:15 (NLT)**

The struggle is real but there is a solution.

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 to demolish strongholds.

— **2 Corinthians 10:3-4 (NIV)**

It becomes a part of your identity.

You feel increasingly hopeless.

You feel like a failure.

You become convinced that there's no way out.

You become defensive.

You become a slave.

You begin to lose your life.

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

— **John 10:10 (NIV)**

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

— **2 Corinthians 3:17 (NIV)**

Hope City

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free.

— **Galatians 5:1 (NIV)**

1. Lose the excuses.

“But they all alike began to make excuses.” The first said, “I have just bought a field, and I must go and see it. Please excuse me.” Another said, “I have just bought five yoke of oxen, and I’m on my way to try them out. Please excuse me.” Still another said, “I just got married, so I can’t come.”

— **Luke 14:18-20 (NIV)**

I can do everything through him who gives me strength.

— **Philippians 4:13 (NIV84)**

2. Cut the ties.

Do not be misled: “Bad company corrupts good character.”

— **1 Corinthians 15:33 (NIV)**

You rise or fall to the level of the people around you.

If you’re not careful the people around you will destroy what’s in front of you.

3. Fill the void.

Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

— **James 4:7 (NIV)**

What you won’t surrender becomes your responsibility to maintain.

DISCUSSION GUIDE:

1. In this week's message Pastor Jeremy highlighted the fact that comfort zones and callings don't go hand-in-hand. Do you feel like you're stuck in a comfort zone? Explain.
2. What is one intentional step you can make this week so walk out of that comfort zone?
3. We often can't walk in the blessings that are on the battlefield because we're carrying too much baggage... What baggage are you carrying right now that is stopping you from walking the fullness of what God has for you?
4. If the enemy can't destroy you, he'll try to distract you. What distractions are keeping you from being connected to the Lord?
5. Out of the strongholds that Pastor Jeremy mentions in this week's message, which one do you resonate with the most?
 - What changes can you make this week to further submit to the Lord?
6. How can you cut ties with the strongholds that are keeping you bound currently?
7. Take some time and have each person in your group pray over each other.