



October 2020

Dear Partner,

Fall is finally here, and what a blessing that is to those of us who live in South Louisiana! The humidity is a lot less this time of year and so it makes it a whole lot more comfortable to be outdoors. It's a good time of the year to visit New Orleans. It's an old city, and almost like going back in time. The bayou country is also so different to those who aren't from here. If you ever get the chance, I think you'd like coming for a tour of our ministry, which are given throughout the day during our regular office hours of 9am-5pm, Monday-Thursday. We sure would love to have you for a visit, and I think you'd enjoy it.

I travel a lot and I'm not always in the office, but when I am, I really enjoy seeing Covenant Partners who stop by for a short tour. I seem to see everyone in the halls as I'm coming and going. Still, I sure hope that you can come one day. Anyway, I just want to say thank you for being a part of this evangelistic work. Cathy and I consider you like extended family with like precious faith. I want you to know that we pray for you daily and have great expectation that you will get great results as you put your faith in the Word of God. It's our prayer that you will serve the Lord and see His great hand of blessing upon you all the days of your life. Glory!

Today, I want to look at a great statement in 1 Samuel 17:29, spoken by a teenager named David. This young boy often watched over his father's sheep, but at this moment had been sent by his father to bring food to his brothers that were fighting a war against the biggest enemy Israel had ever faced. When this young shepherd boy saw everyone hiding in fear, he boldly declared, "Is there not a cause?" This statement reminded me of the powerful theme that the Lord has given us for this year: "Great Expectation Gets Great Results!"

You see, David was young, and nobody thought too much of him at the time. He'd been tending sheep and wanted to know what was really going on with the battle. That's when David learned about the problem the army was having with a giant named Goliath—and it's also when he learned about the king's promise to give his daughter's hand in marriage to any fighting man who could defeat that giant.

His oldest brother, Eliab, was irritated to see David and especially irritated to hear him asking questions. He immediately started jumping on David's case, asking him why he'd come down to the battlefield, why he'd left the sheep, and just accused him of being shameless by telling him, "You've just come to see the battle!" David was blown away by his attack and said, "What have I done now? Is there not a cause?" And he didn't just say that to his brother, but David looked around at everyone who was listening and said the same thing again, "Is there not a cause?" His words became a rallying cry for everyone that heard them. His words weren't just remembered; they were repeated. You see, when you

really *say* something, your words are often repeated by others—they travel further than you know. In David’s case that day, his words traveled all the way to the ears of the *king*.

The nation of Israel was looking at a powerful foe. Goliath struck fear in the hearts of God’s people. Fear will always make your enemy bigger and your enemy’s words louder. Fear amplifies everything. It distorts reality. But, Partner, that day, David didn’t miss an opportunity to attack fear and build the men up with those faith-filled words. “Is there not a cause?” was a statement that meant, “No matter what Goliath looks like, our cause is bigger and worth fighting for.” It was obviously a different train of thought than the men had been thinking or hearing, and they were amazed by the boldness and fearlessness of that teenager.

## **Is There Not a Cause?**

### ***The Battle Is the Lord’s, BUT the Fight Is Yours***

Point one of my letter to you today is this: **We should leave nothing undone that may glorify God.** There is always a cause to stand up for. In the battle of life, we always have to contend with numerous adversaries. David had his Goliath. You may have a big sickness, a giant financial hurdle, or a major family problem. Always remember that you have the sword of the Spirit in your mouth and in your hand (Ephesians 6:17). The battle is the Lord’s, but the fight is yours (1 Samuel 17:45-47).

Every time something big comes against this ministry or me, I have asked myself, “How can I glorify God in this situation?” My answer within myself is always, “Win it.” You see, I don’t aim to lose in the Spirit. I aim to overcome and conquer whatever problem comes to me with the Word of God. It’s called great expectation working to bring me great results. If you read the story of David and Goliath, you’ll find David giving glory to God for previous battles—this is a key to his success as a young man (1 Samuel 17:34-37). His thought process was to remember the victories and remind others of them, too.

Partner, never forget those times in the past where you defeated your enemy. Those memories will help you increase in strength and boldness for the day’s battles—because when you remind yourself and give glory to God for those wins in your life, you are telling your brain to stop fearing. You’re telling yourself, “You won before, and you will win again.” The Word of God is powerful, but it’s most powerful in your life when it’s coming out of your heart and mouth (Hebrews 4:12). As believers, we will have to confront difficulties—but, like David, we must call upon holy courage in the battles of life.

## **You Don’t Have to Reinvent the Wheel to Win**

### ***Just Use the Ways God Has Already Appointed in His Word***

So, point two of my letter to you today is this: **Never invent ways of your own, but use the ways God has appointed in the Word.** The Word of God has an answer for every situation in life. The Bible is not a book of problems; it’s a book of answers. It is a book of methods with appointed ways of dealing with the battles of life (1 John 5:4-5). It shows us how to defeat Satan at every turn, if we will listen and use it (Luke 10:19). So, you don’t have to reinvent the wheel, so to speak—all you have to do is follow the Word, which was here before any problem existed and will be here long after this world has passed away (Luke 21:33).

The Word is so precious to me, yet I’ve had people talk about me so condescendingly about it. They sneer and say things like, “That Jesse Duplantis is one of those ‘Word’ people.” They call themselves believers but make fun of me for *believing*. They call themselves followers of God but make fun of all those who actually hear the Word and *follow* it. I’m not sure what they believe, but when they attack me for being a “Word” person, I have to ask myself why I should ever worry about their opinion of me?

If following the Word is a foolish thing in the eyes of another believer, I know they must be thinking naturally—because 1 Corinthians 2:14 tells me that the spiritual things of God are always foolish to the natural man. Guess what? I’m not a natural-minded man! I’ve spent the best part of my life trying to be just the opposite. I love God and want His ways to be my ways—and so that means I must follow the appointed ways of dealing with the battles of life that are found in His Word. I don’t invent my own ways. I’m a Word person, and I figure that if God’s Word already has given me a way of dealing with a situation, then I would be wise to use that way (1 Corinthians 2:9-13).

Sometimes, the insults others give me end up being the best compliments I’ve gotten! Calling me a “Word” person may be a shot from them but it’s a blessing to me. Heaven and Earth will pass away and all

the opinions of naturally-minded people will pass away along with it—but the Word will never, ever pass away (Mark 13:31).

Don't invent the playbook, Partner! God has already given you the words you need for your battle. Find them. Use them. And don't let any idiot who has the gall and audacity to go against God get to you. Let their condescending words be like water off a duck's back to you. If you are siding with God and applying His Word, you are on the right track.

Joshua 1:8-9 tells us not to let the Word depart from us—to keep it coming out of our mouth and to keep it on our mind day and night so that we can observe to do all that is written in it. This is how we make our way in life prosperous. This is how we have good success. Read those verses in the Word for yourself and do them, and like me, I believe you will see your expectations and your results go sky-high.

You've been created to win at everything in life. You've got everything you need in God to overcome every challenge that you want to. Remember that if you're a believer who is living by the Word and faith, you never battle against anything by yourself—the name of Jesus is on you, and that name is your greatest weapon in the Spirit! Use it. Realize who you are in Christ, and do not let the fear tactics of this world or the devil himself make you cower (Philippians 2:9-11). Is there not a cause?

## **You Are Not Alone, and You're Surely Not Forsaken**

### ***You Are a Friend of God—You Can Count on His Divine Assistance***

Point three in my letter to you today is this: **You can always count on divine assistance in your walk of life.** God said He would never leave us or forsake us (Joshua 1:5). Now, that ought to make you shout! So, if you have to go into combat in life, remember you are not doing it alone. Have faith in God. Partner, whatever you have to face, know this: You will have the right help, you will have the right spirit, you will select the right weapon, and it will be the right time for your victory (2 Corinthians 10:3-5).

Don't you just love divine assistance? Jesus sent us the Holy Spirit for a purpose—we are never without God right here on the earth. Jesus called Him the "Comforter," and He tells us that His purpose is also to guide us into all truth (John 16:7,13). That means the Holy Spirit is going to guide us to use the right Word for the right battle! He's going to show us things we couldn't know without His help. He's going to guide us—meaning that as we trust Him and flow with Him, He will put us in position to meet the challenge we must meet, and with His help we will overcome it and have victory (Romans 8:26-28).

Partner, the Comforter is here. By simplicity of faith and singleness of heart, the answer to your situation will spring forth. We must carry God with us in all the minutest details of life. People always tell me that they love my relationship with God. I've had many ministers comment about how I talk to God, and how He talks back to me. They are sometimes surprised at the kind of relationship I have with the Lord. Well, I tell them that many years ago, I read in James 2:23 that Abraham "*was called the Friend of God.*" So, in prayer one day, I asked the Lord if I could become a friend of His like that too. I remember Him speaking to my spirit, "Jesse, I need a friend." You see, Partner, God has a need to connect with us—and when we want to connect with Him, it blesses His heart. When we draw near to Him, He draws even nearer to us.

From that day, I just received that friendship by faith and I began to talk to God as a friend—I didn't pray the same after that. I developed a relationship and a way of talking to Him that became more and more "close" for lack of a better word. Partner, I can say that I call God a friend and He calls me a friend, too. I put myself out there and He didn't hold back either. That's right, I was friendly and guess what? What you sow, you reap! To have a friend, you must be friendly (Proverbs 18:24). I've found that principle from the Word applies not just to my earthly relationships but also in my relationship with the Lord.

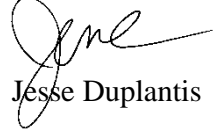
I enjoy the Lord so much. It's fun being saved! Glory! Partner, I call you my friend, too. A friend will be kind, stick up for you, support you, and pray for you. You do all that for me and for this ministry because, like me, you care about the work of the Lord—and I want to say thank you for that. Thank you for your financial support to this ministry. Only friends do that. Together, we're adding souls to the kingdom daily and helping people to learn the ways of God so they don't have to battle life on their own. The more you bless this ministry, the more people I'm able to reach and the more souls are added to God's kingdom. Now, that's great expectation getting great results!

As you sow your seed today, believe for the 100-fold return. You certainly deserve it. As I've said many times before, we're a debt free ministry and so 100% of your seed goes into world evangelism, and not a penny of it goes to debt on the tools it takes to get the job done. Now, that's as good as it gets! Partner, not one penny of interest has ever been paid on something we purchased for this ministry work—your seed goes toward reaching people and changing lives and all that entails, and His kingdom is being increased every time we reach out with His life-changing Word.

Partner, I'm praying for you and believing with you for victory in whatever battle you may be facing. I'm praying for your seed to this ministry to go and grow, multiplying back to you 100-fold. I'm praying that every word you speak will cut the devil's plans to shreds and that your faith in God will pave the way for your victory—spiritually, physically, financially, and in every other way.

Until next time, remember that you don't need to reinvent the wheel. God's Word has your answer, and as you put those words in your heart and let them come out of your mouth, you will see good results—you'll make your way prosperous and you'll have good success. Is there not a cause in your life? Yes, I know there is! We all have something we need to stand up to and stand up for. God is on your side, Partner. You are not alone. Cathy and I are lifting you up and cheering you on, too. So, fear not! Go forward in your cause knowing that no matter what it looks like, with God, nothing is impossible for you.

Love You,



Jesse Duplantis

P.S. In appreciation for your October Partnership of \$50 or more, you don't want to miss requesting my message, ***The Power of Success*** (on DVD, CD, or both formats). And for your October Partnership of any amount, you can request this message on CD. I know you'll be blessed and encouraged by it. See the enclosure or go to JDM.org and click on "Donate" to get your copy today. While you're there, be sure to click on "Partnership" and then "Partner Letter" to download a copy of this letter and the FREE Bible Study Notes!

And, Cathy wanted me to remind you about her ***Glorious Women's Conference*** on **October 2-3** right here at JDM Int'l Headquarters in Destrehan, Louisiana. This is her 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary women's conference and, as always, this event is FREE to all. If you are not able to be here in person, we hope you will watch online at JDM.org or our social media platforms!





GREAT **EXPECTATION** 2 KINGS 6:16-17  
GETS GREAT **RESULTS**

The **BATTLE** Is the **LORD'S**,  
BUT the **FIGHT** *Is Yours!*

*"...Is there not a cause?"* 1 Samuel 17:29

**October 2020**

Partner Letter Bible Study Notes



# **The Battle Is the Lord's, BUT the Fight Is Yours!**

## **1<sup>st</sup> Week OCTOBER 2020 Bible Study Notes**

Open Bible Study in prayer (led by the group leader or someone they choose).

**Fall is finally here, and what a blessing that is to those of us who live in South Louisiana!**

- The humidity is a lot less this time of year and so it makes it a whole lot more comfortable to be outdoors.

**It's a good time of the year to visit New Orleans.**

- It's an old city, and almost like going back in time.
- The bayou country is also so different to those who aren't from here.

**If you ever get the chance, we think you'd like coming for a tour of our ministry, which are given throughout the day during JDM's regular office hours of 9am-5pm, Monday-Thursday.**

- We sure would love to have you for a visit, and we think you'd enjoy it.

**We consider you like extended family with like precious faith and want you to know that we pray for you daily.**

- We have great expectation that you will get great results as you put your faith in the Word of God.
- It's our prayer that you will serve the Lord and see His great hand of blessing upon you all the days of your life.

**In our last Bible Study, we learned to "Believe That You Receive What You DESIRE When You Pray and You Shall Have Them!"**

- Jesus taught us an essential lesson about how faith operates.
- He told us to pray about whatever things we desire, believing that we receive them, and we will have them.

**Each of these Bible Study lessons are based on words from the Lord for us in Jesse's monthly Partner Letter.**

**Today we will begin our new Bible Study for this month, which is titled: "The Battle Is the Lord's, BUT the Fight Is Yours!"**

**\*Instruct the group to turn to 1 Samuel 17:29.**

**We are going look at a great statement spoken by a teenager named David.**

- This young boy often watched over his father's sheep.
- But at this moment, he had been sent by his father to bring food to his brothers.
- Three of his brothers were fighting a war against the biggest enemy Israel had ever faced.

**When this young shepherd boy saw everyone hiding in fear, he made a bold statement.**

**\*Invite someone in the group to read 1 Samuel 17:29 KJV:**

*"And David said, What have I now done? Is there not a cause?"*

**This statement may remind you of the powerful theme that the Lord has given us for this year: "Great Expectation Gets Great Results!"**

**\*Group Discussion: Have you discovered the importance of having great expectation when you are facing a battle?**

**You see, David was young, and nobody thought too much of him at the time.**

- He'd been tending sheep and wanted to know what was really going on with the battle.
- That's when David learned about the problem the army was having with a giant named Goliath.
- That was also when he learned about the king's promise to give his daughter's hand in marriage to any fighting man who could defeat that giant.

**His oldest brother, Eliab, was irritated to see David and especially irritated to hear him asking questions.**

- He immediately started jumping on David's case.
- He asked him why he'd come down to the battlefield, why he'd left the sheep, and just accused him of being shameless by telling him, "You've just come to see the battle!"

**David was blown away by his attack and said, "What have I done now? Is there not a cause?"**

- And he didn't just say that statement to his brother.
- David looked around at everyone who was listening and said the same thing again, "Is there not a cause?"
- His words became a rallying cry for everyone that heard them.
- His words weren't just remembered; they were repeated.

**\*Instruct the group to look at 1 Samuel 17:31-33.**

**You see, when you really say something, your words are often repeated by others—they travel further than you know.**

- In David's case that day, his words traveled all the way to the ears of the *king*.

**\*Invite someone in the group to read 1 Samuel 17:31-33 KJV:**

*"And when the words were heard which David spake, they rehearsed them before Saul: and he sent for him. And David said to Saul, Let no man's heart fail because of him; thy servant will go and fight with this Philistine. And Saul said to David, Thou art not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him: for thou art but a youth, and he a man of war from his youth."*

**The nation of Israel was looking at a powerful foe.**

- Goliath struck fear in the hearts of God's people.

**\*Group Discussion: Have you noticed that fear will always make your enemy bigger and your enemy's words louder?**

**Fear amplifies everything.**

- It distorts reality.

**That day, David didn't miss an opportunity to attack fear and build the men up with those faith-filled words.**

- "Is there not a cause?" was a powerful statement.
- It meant, "No matter what Goliath looks like, our cause is bigger and worth fighting for."

**It was obviously a different train of thought than the men had been thinking or hearing.**

- They were amazed by the boldness and fearlessness of that teenager.

**\*Group Discussion: Has this lesson helped you to see how to attack fear and boldly stand up for your great expectations?**

**In our next Bible Study lesson, we will see the importance of giving glory to God for previous battles.**

- We should leave nothing undone that may glorify God.
- There is always a cause to stand up for.

**We must always remember that the battle is the Lord's, but the fight is ours.**

**Confess What You Expect!**

1. I have great expectation that I will get great results as I put my faith in the Word of God. My words are a rallying cry to be remembered and repeated.
2. There is always a cause to stand up for in life. I will not allow fear to distort reality. I never miss an opportunity to attack fear with faith-filled words.

**Close in Prayer.**

# The Battle Is the Lord's, BUT the Fight Is Yours!

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Week OCTOBER 2020 Bible Study Notes

Open Bible Study in prayer (led by the group leader or someone they choose).

We hope that you have been encouraged by our theme that the Lord gave us for 2020: "Great Expectation Gets Great Results!"

- We have been declaring it all year and it is happening!

Let's continue with the second lesson in our Bible Study titled: "The Battle Is the Lord's, BUT the Fight Is Yours!"

\*Instruct the group to turn to 1 Samuel 17:29.

In our last lesson, we looked at a great statement spoken by David, a teenage boy who watched over his father's sheep.

- His father sent David to bring food to his three brothers that were in a battle against the biggest enemy that Israel had ever faced.
- David's oldest brother was irritated to see him and hear his questions about the battle.
- When he saw everyone hiding in fear, this young shepherd boy made a bold statement that charged the atmosphere with faith in God.

\*Invite someone in the group to read 1 Samuel 17:29 KJV:

*"And David said, What have I now done? Is there not a cause?"*

Everyone was amazed by the boldness and fearlessness of a teenager that day.

- His words became a rallying cry that were remembered and repeated.

Now, let's move on to the first point of this month's study: We should leave nothing undone that may glorify God.

- There is always a cause to stand up for.

\*Instruct the group to turn to Ephesians 6:10.

In the battle of life, we always have to contend with numerous adversaries.

- David had his Goliath.

\*Group Discussion: You may have a big sickness, a giant financial hurdle, or a major family problem. What should you do about it?

Always remember that you have the sword of the Spirit in your mouth and in your hand.

- This vital part of your armor enables you to stand against the wiles of the devil.

\*Invite someone in the group to read Ephesians 6:10-17 KJV:

*"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. 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. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God."*

All parts of the armor are defensive except the sword of the Spirit.

- The Word of God is an active weapon that is to be used offensively.

The armor of God prepares us to withstand every attack of the enemy.

\*Instruct the group to turn to 1 Samuel 17:45-47.



**The battle is the Lord's, but the fight is yours.**

- David refused to hide in fear like his brothers and the entire army of Israel did that day.
- He ran toward Goliath declaring his great expectation that would get great results.

**\*Invite someone in the group to read 1 Samuel 17:45-47 KJV:**

*“Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, Whom thou hast defied. This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcasses of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the LORD'S, and He will give you into our hands.”*

**Every time something big comes against us, we ask ourselves, “How can we glorify God in this situation?”**

- Our answer is always, “Win it.” You see, we don't aim to lose in the Spirit.
- We aim to overcome and conquer whatever problem comes to us with the Word of God.
- It's called great expectation working to bring us great results.

**\*Instruct the group to look at 1 Samuel 17:34-37.**

**If you read the story of David and Goliath, you'll find David giving glory to God for previous battles.**

- This is a key to his success as a young man.

**\*Invite someone in the group to read 1 Samuel 17:34-37 KJV:**

*“And David said unto Saul, Thy servant kept his father's sheep, and there came a lion, and a bear, and took a lamb out of the flock: And I went out after him, and smote him, and delivered it out of his mouth: and when he arose against me, I caught him by his beard, and smote him, and slew him. Thy servant slew both the lion and the bear: and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be as one of them, seeing he hath defied the armies of the living God. David said moreover, The LORD that delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, He will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine. And Saul said unto David, Go, and the LORD be with thee.”*

**David's thought process was to remember the victories and remind others of them, too.**

**\*Group Discussion: Do you remember times in the past where you defeated your enemy?**

**Those memories will help you increase in strength and boldness for the day's battles.**

- When you remind yourself and give glory to God for those wins in your life, you are telling your brain to stop fearing.
- You are telling yourself, “You won before, and you will win again.”

**The Word of God is powerful, but it's most powerful in your life when it's coming out of your heart and mouth (Hebrews 4:12).**

- As believers, we will have to confront difficulties—but, like David, we must call upon holy courage in the battles of life.

**Confess What You Expect!**

1. I leave nothing undone that may glorify God and always remember that I have the sword of the Spirit in my mouth and in my hand. The battle is the Lord's, but the fight is mine.
2. I overcome and conquer whatever problem comes to me with the Word of God. I call upon holy courage in the battles of life and declare, “I won before, and I will win again.”

**Close in Prayer.**

# **The Battle Is the Lord's, BUT the Fight Is Yours!**

## **3<sup>rd</sup> Week OCTOBER 2020 Bible Study Notes**

Open Bible Study in prayer (led by the group leader or someone they choose).

Today we will continue with the third lesson in our Bible Study titled: "The Battle Is the Lord's, BUT the Fight Is Yours!"

- Each of our Bible Study lessons help us all to go deeper in God's Word.

**In each lesson, we always declare the theme that the Lord gave us for 2020: "Great Expectation Gets Great Results!"**

- It's so important to daily declare the great expectations that you have for yourself, your family, your nation, and everything that God has placed on your heart.
- This is how faith operates, and it is how you will get great results.

\*Instruct the group to turn to 1 Samuel 17:29 for our foundation scripture.

**In our Bible Study this month, we have been looking at a great statement spoken by a teenage boy who watched over his father's sheep.**

- This boy was David, who inspired a nation with his faith-filled words.

\*Invite someone in the group to read 1 Samuel 17:29 KJV:

*"And David said, What have I now done? Is there not a cause?"*

**We know from our first two lessons that David said this in response to his oldest brother's criticism.**

- But David ran toward Goliath declaring his great expectation, and he got great results.
- His words and actions reveal that the battle is the Lord's, but the fight is ours.

**Now let's move on and look at the second point in this month's teaching today: Never invent ways of your own, but use the ways God has appointed in the Word.**

- The Word of God has an answer for every situation in life.
- The Bible is not a book of problems; it's a book of answers.

**It is a book of methods with appointed ways of dealing with the battles of life (1 John 5:4-5).**

- It shows us how to defeat Satan at every turn, if we will listen and use it (Luke 10:19).

**So, you don't have to reinvent the wheel.**

- All you have to do is follow the Word, which was here before any problem existed.
- And, it will be here long after this world has passed away (Luke 21:33).

\*Instruct the group to turn to 1 Corinthians 2:14.

**The Word is so precious, yet sometimes people talk so condescendingly about it.**

- They sneer and say things like, "They are those 'Word' people."

\*Group Discussion: Do you know someone who calls themselves a believer but makes fun of people for believing?

**They call themselves followers of God but make fun of all those who actually hear the Word and follow it.**

- We're not sure what they believe, but when they attack us for being "Word" people, we have to ask ourselves why we should ever worry about their opinion of us?

**If following the Word is a foolish thing in the eyes of another believer, we know they must be thinking naturally.**

\*Invite someone in the group to read 1 Corinthians 2:14 KJV:

*"But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."*

### **Guess what? We're not natural-minded!**

- We've spent the best part of our life trying to be just the opposite.
- We love God and want His ways to be our ways.

**That means we must follow the appointed ways of dealing with the battles of life that are found in His Word.**

- We don't invent our own ways—we are Word people.
- If God's Word already has given us a way of dealing with a situation, then we would be wise to use that way (1 Corinthians 2:9-13).

### **\*Group Discussion: Have you noticed that the insults of others sometimes end up being the best compliments?**

- When people call you a "Word" person, it may be a shot from them but it's a blessing to you.
- Heaven and Earth will pass away and all the opinions of naturally-minded people will pass away along with it—but the Word will never, ever pass away (Mark 13:31).

### **Don't invent the playbook!**

- God has already given you the words you need for your battle. Find them. Use them.
- And don't let any idiot who has the gall and audacity to go against God get to you.
- Let their condescending words be like water off a duck's back to you.

**If you are siding with God and applying His Word, you are on the right track.**

- Joshua 1:8-9 tells us not to let the Word depart from us.
- We must keep it coming out of our mouth and keep it on our mind day and night so that we can observe to do all that is written in it.
- This is how we make our way in life prosperous.
- This is how we have good success.

**Read those verses in the Word for yourself and do them.**

- Then you will see your expectations and your results go sky-high.
- You've been created to win at everything in life.
- You've got everything you need in God to overcome every challenge.

**Remember that if you're a believer who is living by the Word and faith, you never battle against anything by yourself.**

- The name of Jesus is on you, and that name is your greatest weapon in the Spirit!
- Use it.
- Realize who you are in Christ, and do not let the fear tactics of this world or the devil himself make you cower (Philippians 2:9-11).

**Is there not a cause?**

### **Confess What You Expect!**

1. I don't have to reinvent the wheel to win. I use the ways God has already appointed in His Word and have an answer for every situation in life. I defeat Satan at every turn.
2. I've been created to win at everything in life. I've got everything I need in God to overcome every challenge.
3. I never battle against anything by myself. The name of Jesus is on me, and that name is my greatest weapon in the Spirit! I use it and do not cower in fear.

**Close in Prayer.**

# **The Battle Is the Lord's, BUT the Fight Is Yours!**

## **4<sup>th</sup> Week OCTOBER 2020 Bible Study Notes**

Open Bible Study in prayer (led by the group leader or someone they choose).

Let's begin by declaring our 2020 theme that the Lord gave to us: "Great Expectation Gets Great Results!"

- It is so important to keep your faith focused on the things that you expect from God.

\*Instruct the group to turn to 1 Samuel 17:29 for our foundation scripture.

Today we are concluding our Bible Study titled: "The Battle Is the Lord's, BUT the Fight Is Yours!"

- This study is based on Jesse's teaching in this month's Partner Letter about a young shepherd boy's bold statement that ignited a nation.

\*Invite someone in the group to read 1 Samuel 17:29 KJV:

*"And David said, What have I now done? Is there not a cause?"*

In our previous lessons, we saw that this was David's response when he was criticized by his older brother when he refused to cower in fear like everyone else.

\*Instruct the group to look at 1 Samuel 17:47.

**The battle is the Lord's, but the fight is yours.**

- David refused to hide in fear like his brothers and the entire army of Israel did that day.
- He ran toward Goliath declaring his great expectation that would get great results.

\*Invite someone in the group to read 1 Samuel 17:47 KJV:

*"And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the LORD'S, and He will give you into our hands."*

Now, let's look at the third point from Jesse's Partner Letter for this month: **You can always count on divine assistance in your walk of life.**

- God said He would never leave us or forsake us (Joshua 1:5).
- So, if you have to go into combat in life, remember you are not doing it alone.
- Have faith in God and never forget that the battle is the Lord's, but the fight is yours.

\*Instruct the group to turn to John 16:7&13.

- Whatever you have to face, know this: You will have the right help, you will have the right spirit, you will select the right weapon, and it will be the right time for your victory (2 Corinthians 10:3-5).

\*Invite someone in the group to read John 16:7&13 KJV:

*7 "Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send Him unto you."*

*13 "Howbeit when He, the Spirit of truth, is come, He will guide you into all truth: for He shall not speak of Himself; but whatsoever He shall hear, that shall He speak: and He will shew you things to come."*

\*Group Discussion: Don't you just love divine assistance? Does this promise fill you with great expectation for great results?

- Jesus sent us the Holy Spirit for a purpose.
- We are never without God right here on the earth.

**Jesus called Him the "Comforter," and said that His purpose is also to guide us into all truth.**

- That means the Holy Spirit is going to guide us to use the right Word for the right battle!
- He's going to show us things we couldn't know without His help.



- He's going to guide us—meaning that as we trust Him and flow with Him, He will put us in position to meet the challenge we must meet, and with His help we will overcome it and have victory (Romans 8:26-28).

**The Comforter is here.**

- Realize that by simplicity of faith and singleness of heart, the answer to your situation will spring forth.
- It is vital that we carry God with us in all the minutest details of life.

**God has a need to connect with us—and when we want to connect with Him, it blesses His heart.**

- In James 2:23 we see that Abraham *“was called the Friend of God.”*
- You can ask the Lord if you could become a friend of His like that too.
- This kind of relationship with God is available to everyone that will seek Him.

**When we draw near to Him, He draws even nearer to us.**

- You can receive that friendship by faith and begin to talk to God as a friend.
- Decide today to be friendly and guess what? What you sow, you reap!
- To have a friend, you must be friendly (Proverbs 18:24).

**\*Group Discussion: Do you know that this principle from the Word applies not just to our earthly relationships but also in our relationship with the Lord?**

**A friend will be kind, stick up for you, support you, and pray for you.**

- We are praying for you and believing with you for victory in whatever battle you may be facing.
- We are praying that every word you speak will cut the devil's plans to shreds and that your faith in God will pave the way for your victory—spiritually, physically, financially, and in every other way.

**Until next time, remember that you don't need to reinvent the wheel.**

- God's Word has your answer, and as you put those words in your heart and let them come out of your mouth, you will see good results.
- You'll make your way prosperous and you'll have good success.

**Is there not a cause in your life?**

- We all have something we need to stand up to and stand up for.
- God is on your side. You are not alone.
- We are lifting you up and cheering you on, too. So, fear not!

**Go forward in your cause knowing that no matter what it looks like, with God, nothing is impossible for you.**

**Confess What You Expect!**

1. I am not alone, and I'm surely not forsaken. I am a friend of God and I can count on His divine assistance. I have faith in God that I will have everything I need for my victory.
2. The Holy Spirit is going to guide me to use the right Word for the right battle. He's going to show me things and put me in position to overcome every challenge.
3. God's Word has my answer, and as I put those words in my heart and let them come out of my mouth, I will see good results. I'll make my way prosperous and I'll have good success.

**Close in Prayer.**