

## Special Men's Breakfast Series Wild at Heart: Becoming Men of God

### *Part Four: Winning the Battle for a Man's Heart*

Over the past few weeks we have learned about our true identity as “*Men of God*” and as we have learned more about this identity we have also learned that embracing this high calling means that we embrace the battle of our lives. This battle that we step into takes place all around us every hour of every day and we are only aware of it at some of our weakest moments but the battle continues to be waged day after day until we choose to give in.

- *Explain in your own words what this “Battle” means that men are plunged into in their daily lives.*
- *Why is this important for us to recognize?*
- *What does this mean in practical terms for modern day “Christian Men?”*

Winston Churchill was called to lead the British through the desperate hours of WWII. He said, “I felt as if I were walking with destiny, and that all my past life had been a preparation for this hour and for this trial.” (Eldridge, p. 142)

We must understand that we are being prepared each and every day for the next days battle and the next days battle promises to be a more intense and rigorous battle than the day before. We must understand that everything we have learned from our successes and failures has prepared us for this very moment but most importantly at this very moment God has promised us that we will not have to plunge our lives into this battle in complete isolation because he has promised to always be there for us.

**John 15:5** – “I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.”

- *What does it mean for God to always be there for you as a “Man of God?”*
- *How does this encourage you in your daily battle? How does this strengthen your heart?*

The remainder of this lesson will focus on the issue of how the “*Man of God*” can truly win the battle for his heart if he desires. It is not an easy battle and it takes preparation, observation, and action on our part and success means the rejection of passivity. Without further hesitation let us look at the “*Traits of a Godly Warrior*” that has chosen to win the battle for his heart.

### **Traits of a Godly Warrior**

#### **Trait #1 – A Godly Warrior Has A Vision**

Every Godly warrior that truly wants to succeed for God has chosen to embrace God's will for his life, God's direction for his path, and God's love for his model of service. It is

important that “*Men of God*” realize that to accomplish this great calling then we must **LET GO and LET GOD.**

**Mark 8:35** – For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and for the gospel will save it.

- *What is God's vision for the “Man of God?”*
- *How is this different from your vision in your life?*
- *Why is God's vision crucial for us to embrace and not just acknowledge? Is there a difference?*
- **Mt. 19:26** – Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”

### **Trait #2 – A Godly Warrior is Strong**

We have learned over the last few weeks that true strength in God's eyes is not always the same definition as the world would want us to embrace.

- *Define true strength in your own words. Explain.*

**Psalm 22:19** – But you, O LORD, be not far off; O my Strength, come quickly to help me.

**Psalm 59:9** – O my Strength, I watch for you; you, O God, are my fortress...

- *What does it mean for the “Lord” to be your strength?*

### **Trait #3 – A Godly Warrior is Cunning**

It is a fact that we are in a great spiritual battle every day of our lives. Satan is cunning and he is a master of deception.

- *What are some of the lies that Satan wants us to believe about being a “Man of God?”*
- *How do we counter-attack these lies if we recognize them?*

**Ephesians 6:10-13** – Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

### **Trait #4 – A Godly Warrior Knows the Enemy**

There are many Christians that want to believe in a good God and an eternal heaven but do not want to even acknowledge that Satan or hell exists. A Godly warrior does not walk through this world with his eyes wide shut or in ignorance of his enemy.

- *What is the danger in not believing or acknowledging that Satan exists?*
- *What does Scripture say about Satan?*

**Revelation 12:7-9** – And there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. <sup>8</sup> But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. <sup>9</sup> The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.

- *Why do we even have to be on our guard against Satan?*

It is the image of God reflected in you that so enrages hell; it is this at which the demons hurl their mightiest weapons. – **William Gurnall**

- **1 Peter 5:8-9** – Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

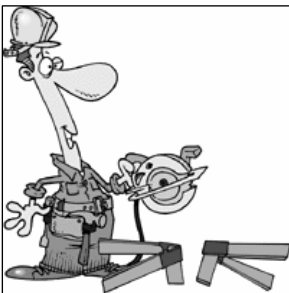
#### **Trait #5 – A Godly Warrior is Humble in Heart**

The last trait seems like an uncommon trait among warriors yet it is absolutely essential for true survival. The trait that most men struggle to implement in their lives is that of **HUMILITY**.

- *Why is humility so hard for men to implement in their own lives?*
- *Is it really essential in being a “Man of God?” Explain.*
- *Is it really essential in being a Godly warrior? Explain.*

**Mt. 11:28-30** – “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and **LEARN FROM ME**, for I am **GENTLE** and **HUMBLE** in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

### **SOLID ROCK CONSTRUCTION TEAM**



**!!NEW!!** = Starting in the next few months Cicero Christian Church is starting a new ministry that is truly “A Man’s Ministry!” It is called the **Solid Rock Construction Team** and it is a ministry that is focused on building relationships through working on actual building projects that different people in the congregation need to have done. Look in the next few bulletins for more information!

#### **Scheduled Lessons to Come for the Series**

August 04 – The Adventure to Live

Note: All lessons are available for download at the Cicero Christian Church website = [www.cicerochristianchurch.org](http://www.cicerochristianchurch.org)