

# VICTORIOUS LIVING

## GOALS:

1. Each participant to understand Christ's full provision made to enable them to live in victory.
2. Each one to apply the principles taught, to obtain victory in at least one area of their life where they have been defeated before.

## CONTENTS:

1. Definition
2. Reasons for living in Victory
3. Causes of defeat. Application.
4. Areas of Victory. Application.
5. Resources for victory
6. How to obtain victory. Application
7. How to maintain victory. Application.
8. How to regain victory
9. Rewards of Victory

## 1. DEFINITION:

Final and complete superiority in war; successful military engagement; success attained in a contest or struggle over an opponent, obstacle or problem; the act of triumphing or state of having triumphed.

Victory presupposes an enemy.

**Triumph:** The feeling of exultation and happiness derived from victory or major achievement or condition of being victorious

**Success:** Favourable outcome of something attempted

**Mastery:** Full command of understanding of a subject; outstanding skill, expertise; the power of command of control; victory, superiority

**Achievement:** Something that has been accomplished especially by hard work, ability or heroism

**Life:** The state or quality that distinguishes living beings/organisms from dead ones and from organic matter, characterised by growth, metabolism, ability to reproduce and respond to stimuli.

Victorious Living: A state or quality of existence, marked by a growing achievement of success in all areas - spirit, soul, body - with constant superiority over all that would oppose such a life.

A consistent expression of the fullness of life in Christ, independent of outward circumstances. Rom 5:17b

## 2. REASONS FOR LIVING IN VICTORY:

2.1. To manifest the life of Jesus Christ for His glory. 2 Cor 2:14 - 16; Rom 8:29

2.2. To show by the fruit that we are alive spiritually. 1 John 3:10; Matt.7:16 - 21  
John 15:5 - 8

2.3. To effectively represent the King and build His Kingdom Acts 5:11 - 14

2.4. To experience and enjoy all He has purchased for us on the cross Rom.5:1;  
John 10:10

2.5. Affirm/consolidate the victory of the Cross and the defeat of Satan 1 John 4:4; 5:4

2.6. To gain the promised rewards - see point 9

### 3. CAUSES OF DEFEAT:

- 3.1. Lack of knowledge of:
  - 3.1.1. God's provision/resources      2 Pet.1:3.
  - 3.1.2. His Word and power              Mark 12:24; (Matt 22:29)
  - 3.1.3. The tactics of the enemy/real battle. Eph 6:12
  - 3.1.4. Human nature                      Rom 7:23,24
  - 3.1.5. "How to"
- 3.2. Low "resistance" due to:
  - 3.2.1. Poor food - not living in the Word, neglecting fellowship with other believers
  - 3.2.2. Lack of exercise - not actively witnessing, serving the Lord.
  - 3.2.3. Neglect - not watching own spiritual life.      Jude :20,21
  - 3.2.4. Overwork - too active in "doing" things for the Lord, not enough time for Him
- 3.3. Walking in the flesh: Gal 5:19 - 21; Rom.7:15 - 24; 8:7,8
  - 3.3.1. Jesus warned that the flesh was weak:              Matt 26:41
  - 3.3.2. Areas of fleshly temptation:
 

Appetite:	Gen 25:29 - 33 (Esau)
Things:	Jos. 7:21 (Achan)
Women:	1 King. 11:1 - 4 (Solomon)
Ambition:	Mark 10:35 - 37 (James/John)
Money:	1 Tim. 6:9,10
Pride:	Prov. 6:16,17; 8:14
- 3.4. Sinful attitudes/choices:
  - 3.4.1. Unbelief:      Heb 3:12 - 14,18,19.  
It is a fight of faith.      1 Tim 6:12
  - 3.4.2. Unresolved anger:      Eph 4:26,27
  - 3.4.3. Persistent rebellion:      James 4:7,10; Ps. 68:6b; 1 Sam 15:23
  - 3.4.4. Disobedience/unforgiveness: 2 Cor 2:5 - 11;
  - 3.4.5. Grieving the Holy Spirit:      Eph.4:30 - 32
  - 3.4.6. Voluntarily entering into temptation: Gen 3:6 (Eve) Gen 13:11 - 13 (Lot)
- 3.5. Wrong teaching:
  - 3.5.1. We cannot expect victory, we are "only human"
  - 3.5.2. Unrealistic/unbalanced approaches:
 

Simplistic - eg only praise, the Cross, positive confession
Unreal, phoney talking - never admit defeat, sickness, failure
  - 3.5.3. Result of unrealistic expectations: failure, condemnation, loss of hope, apathy, despair

3.6. Fear of man/peer pressure: Prov.29:25; John 5:44, 12:43

3.7. Application:

Which of the reasons for defeat apply to your life?

List them below:

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3.8. Occult involvement/bondage/attacks:

3.8.1. Satan desires to sift us: Luke 22:31

3.8.2. Attacks by roaring as a lion: 1 Pet 5:5 - 9

3.8.3. Opposes the righteous: Zech 3:1

3.8.4. Deceives and accuses: Rev. 12:9,10

3.8.5. Sin is of Satan, so tempts to sin, using the flesh: Jam 1:13 - 16  
Gen 3:4,5 (Eve); Matt 4:1,3 (Jesus) although his works have been  
destroyed 1 John 3:8

3.8.6. Places sinful thoughts into the heart/mind: John 13:2 (Judas);  
Acts 5:3 (Ananias and Saphira); Eph 2:2 (unbelievers);  
1 Chron.21:1 (David)

3.8.7. Strongholds from the past/active or passive involvement with occult practises.  
Ex 20:5 - 3rd and 4th generation  
Ps 106:28,41 - 43 - idolatry ( up - and - down - life )  
Giving in to sinful behaviour has a progressive effect:  
Influence - weight on the will - habit - bondage.

3.9. Application:

Ask the Lord to reveal/remind you of any areas of occult involvement in your own  
life or that of your family.

Write them down below:

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Pray in your group about this, confessing and renouncing each involvement. "Lord I confess that I have participated in. ....  
I ask Your forgiveness and I renounce ....."

#### 4. AREAS OF VICTORY:

We can experience victory in every area of our lives. First there must be victory over:

##### 4.1. Inner enemies:

- 4.1.1. The flesh/self-life: Gal 2:20; Rom 7:25
- 4.1.2. Sin/sinful habits: 2 Pet 1:3,4; 1 Cor 9:27, 10:23
- 4.1.3. Temptation: 1 Cor 10:13

##### 4.2. Outer enemies:

- 4.2.1. Satanic attacks: Jam.4:7; John 14:30  
He cannot touch us if we have no unconfessed sin
- 4.2.2. Opposition/persecution for the sake of the Lord. 1 Pet 4:12 - 14

##### 4.3. Application:

Identify and write down at least one specific area where you have not been walking in victory.

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#### 5. RESOURCES FOR VICTORY:

God has made abundant provision for us to live in victory. His resources are more than adequate, but if we do not know and use them, we will not benefit from them.

##### 5.1. The Word of God and His promises: Matt 4:4,7,10; Heb 4:12

- 5.1.1. Faith in the Word: Heb 4:2,3; 2 Pet 1:3,4
- 5.1.2. Declare the Word. Rom 10:9,10; 2 Cor 4:13

##### 5.2. The cross, death and resurrection of Jesus, where sin, self and satan were defeated: Col 2:15; Rom 6: 4 - 6,12,14; Gal 2:20

##### 5.3. The Name of Jesus: Mark 16:17; Acts 3:6; John 15:16b; 16:23

##### 5.4. The blood of the Lamb: Rev 12:11

##### 5.5. Faith in God: Rom 4:20,21; Heb 11:33,34; 1 John 4:4; 5:4; Rev 12:11

- 5.6. Prayer: Matt 26:41; Acts 4:23 - 33
- 5.7. Indwelling Holy Spirit/Presence of Jesus: Rom 5:9,10; 2 Cor 10:4;  
Eph 5:18; Gal 5:16

## 6. HOW TO OBTAIN VICTORY:

- 6.1. Know our resources - see above
- 6.2. Know ourselves and the enemy. 2 Cor 2:11
- 6.3. Use the resources Rom 5:17
- 6.3.1. **Revelation:** heart understanding of our position in Christ  
Luke 10:19; Eph 2:6; Luke 11:21,22; John 16:33; Rom 8:37
- 6.3.2. **Repentance:** where needed: 1 John 1:9;
- 6.3.3. **Restitution:** needed. Luke 19:8
- 6.3.4. **Renounce:** evil: John 5:14; Prov 28:13
- 6.3.5. **Renewal:** of the mind: Fill with God's Word: Col 3:16  
Prepare mind for action: 1 Pet 1:13  
Take every thought captive: 2 Cor 10:5  
Bring everything to God: Phil 4:6,7
- 6.3.6. **Right choices/attitudes:** 1 Thess 3:3-5; Rom 12:21;  
Rom 8:28, 35-37; Jam 1:2-4;
- 6.3.7. **Resist** the enemy: Jam 4:7
- 6.3.8. Never give up! Perseverance and patience: 2 Tim 2:12; Gal 6:9
- 6.4. Walk in faith. Rom 4:20,21; 1 John 5:4
- 6.5. Walk in the Spirit: Gal 5:16
- 6.6. Make yourself accountable to another member of the body Gal 6:2,5

### 6.7. Application:

6.7.1. From the following verses, determine your identity, by reading your own name into the verse:

John 1:12; Gal 3:26; 4:6 (child of God)

1 Cor 3:16; 6:19 (indwelt by the Spirit)

1 Cor 2:16 (mind of Christ)

Gal 2:20; Col 3:3 (crucified with Christ)

Eph 2:6,10 (seated in heaven, work prepared)

6.7.2. Outline the steps you need to take to establish victory in the area mentioned in 4.3. above.

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- .....
- 6.7.3. When will you start? .....
- 6.7.4. What do you plan to do first?.....
- 6.7.5. To whom will you make yourself accountable?

## 7. HOW TO MAINTAIN VICTORY:

- 7.1. Vigilance and prayer: **Eternal vigilance is the price of victory**  
1 Pet 5:8; Luke 22:40
- 7.2. **Realistic attitude to life:** John 10:10; 8:36; 14:27; 15:11 (abundance, joy, peace, freedom) but also John 16:33; 15:18-21 (trouble is normal)
- 7.3. **Expect victory**, because God has made provision for this. 2 Pet 1:3,4
- 7.4. **Keep short accounts:** 1 John 1:9 Don't let matters pile up
- 7.5. **Refuse accusation and condemnation:** Rom 8:1. Watch out for the enemy!  
1 Pet 5:8,9
- 7.6. **Maintain a vital relationship with Jesus:** John 15:5,6  
7.6.1. Dwell in the Word Col 3:16  
7.6.2. Talk to Him in prayer: 1 Thess 5:17  
7.6.3. Be secure in your position in Him: Eph 2:6
- 7.7. **Co-operate with Him:** Phil 2:13
- 7.8. **Believe His promises.**

### 7.9. Application:

Divide into groups of 3 - 6 persons. Each group to take one set of scriptures, and one verse to be assigned to each person. The person is to read the verse aloud, inserting his/her own name in the appropriate place in the verse.

Example: Heb 13:5,6: " Let Jane's character and moral disposition be free from love of money, for He has said: 'I will never leave Jane, nor forsake Jane'. So Jane takes comfort and Jane can boldly say' The Lord is Jane's helper, what can man do to Jane?" Meditate on the meaning of what you have just read, and accept that promise for yourself.

Group 1:

Rom 5:1  
 Rom 6:1-6  
 Rom 8:1  
 Eph 2:18  
 Titus 3:5  
 1 Pet 1:5

Group 2:

1 Cor 2: 12  
 1 Cor 2:16 b  
 2 Cor 1:21  
 2 Cor 5:21  
 Heb 2:11  
 Jude :24

Group 3:

Gal 2:20  
 Eph 1:4,5  
 Eph 1:13,14  
 Eph 2:5,6  
 Heb 4:16  
 1 Cor 10:13

Group 4:

Eph 3:12  
 Col 1:13,14  
 1 Cor 6:19,20  
 Col 1:27  
 2 Pet 1:3,4  
 Jam 4:7

Group 5:

Col 2:10-13  
 Col 3:1,3,4  
 2 Tim 1:7  
 2 Tim 1:9  
 Heb 2:18  
 Rom 8:37-39

Group 6:

Rom 6:12  
 Gal 5:1  
 2 Tim 1:12  
 Heb 13:5,20,21  
 2 Pet 2:9  
 Ps 91:4

- 7.9. Homework: In your own time of devotion, prayerfully read all the other verses in the same way, and appropriate the truth of God's Word for your own life.

## 8. HOW TO REGAIN VICTORY:

- 8.1. Recognise and admit defeat honestly
- 8.2. Be determined to overcome in His strength
- 8.3. Follow steps as in 6 and 7
- 8.4. Get up one more time than you have been down
- 8.5. Ask for help from the body of Christ

## 9. REWARDS OF VICTORY:

The Bible promises that over comers will:

- 9.1. Eat of the tree of life Rev 2:7
- 9.2. Receive the crown of life Rev 2:10
- 9.3. Not be hurt by the second death Rev 2:11
- 9.4. Eat of the hidden manna; receive a white stone with a new name Rev 2:17
- 9.5. Be given authority over the nations Rev 2:26
- 9.6. Be clothed with white raiment, not have their names blotted out of the book of life, be openly confessed before the Father. Rev 3:5
- 9.7. Be made a pillar in God's sanctuary; Name of God, Jerusalem, Jesus' new name written on them Rev. 3:12
- 9.8. Sit beside Jesus on the throne Rev. 3:21
- 9.9. Be present at the final victory over the beast Rev 17:14
- 9.10. Inherit all things, be a son of God Rev. 21:7
- 9.11. Stand beside the sea of glass and sing His praises Rev. 15:2
- 9.12. After enduring receive a crown of life. Jam 1:12

NO PROMISES GIVEN TO THOSE WHO FAIL TO OVERCOME!

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