

## BATTLE CRY

No matter what situation you find yourself in, your war-cry is essential for your deliverance and protection.

### KEY POINTS

- ❖ A war cry or a battle cry is a yell or chant taken up in battle, usually by members of the same combatant group.
- ❖ "The sword of the Lord and of Gideon!" was the battle cry of the Israelites when they faced the Midianites.
- ❖ Gideon, whose name means "Destroyer" or "Mighty Warrior", did not feel much like a warrior or even "mighty" when the angel showed up. In fact, at that time he was hiding his wheat from the Midianites for fear they would take it away! (See Judges 6:11.)
- ❖ Gideon had doubts as to whether God existed the way his forefathers mentioned, so he tested God. And in return he received several signs that God was with him.
- ❖ Sometimes the battle can be so fierce that one may wonder if God is real; if He is omnipotent as He declares. Whether we believe it or not, whether our doubts overwhelm us, the fact remains that God is.
- ❖ Being on the winning side does not mean we should lay low, do nothing and let the enemy do whatever he wants with us, our friends and our family. As children of God, we need to fight: fight for your soul, fight for your family, fight for your friends, fight for your brothers and sisters in Christ.
- ❖ We must sound the alarm and let the enemy know that our family, our brothers, our sisters are not alone. As children of God, we can do great damage in the enemy's camp. We must know the weapons we have and use them accordingly (see 2 Corinthians 10:4; Romans 8:31; 1 John 4:4).
- ❖ We need our spiritual armour as outlined in Ephesians 6. We need the belt of truth and the breastplate of righteousness. We need to have our feet covered with the preparation of the gospel of peace. We need the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God.
- ❖ And we need a battle cry. A battle cry is not a sign that we are losing the battle, but a sign that we are ready for battle, that we are determined to fight. The spiritual warrior's battle cry reverberates in their prayer.
- ❖ The Lord sent a word to Jehoshaphat: "The battle is not yours but God's" (2 Chronicles 20:15). That response came after Jehoshaphat and the people fasted and prayed before the Lord.
- ❖ Without prayer we will lose the battle. In prayer we will get direction. In prayer God will reveal things to us about our situation. In prayer God will remind us that we are not alone. The battle cry of a child of God is prayer.
- ❖ The Word of God must be the foundation of the battle cry of the child of God. Jesus deflected every temptation of the enemy by using the Word of God: "It is written." (See Matthew 4:1-11.)

### KEY SCRIPTURE: Judges 7:15-22

- ❖ We need to know what is written. We must saturate ourselves with the Word of God.
- ❖ Hebrews 4:12 tells us that the Word of God is sharper than any two-edged sword. It was meant to be used, so use it!
- ❖ Use it when you have a need (Philippians 4:19), when you are sick (Isaiah 53:5), when feel ashamed, inadequate (1 Peter 2:9-10; 1 Cor. 6:9-13), when the enemy tries to intimidate you (1 John 4:4; John 16:33).
- ❖ Do not let the enemy cripple you with fear and shame. The blood of the lamb covers us (Psalm 46:1; Romans 8:38-39). Fight for your sanity. Fight for your integrity. Fight!
- ❖ A warrior's mindset must be different. It's about knowing who you are and what you stand for as a Christian. Warriors do not stand up and let the enemy run all over them. Warriors fight. Even when we are down, even when wounded, we sound our battle cries and fight.
- ❖ Our battle cries are to let the enemy know that we are not asleep. We will not back down, we will not give up, we will not bow, we will not be destroyed, and we will not be defeated. We are going to fight to the finish.
- ❖ We will sound the alarm. A battle cry of prayer, of the Word, and also one of worship. Sound your battle cry!
- ❖ Joshua led the children of Israel around the walls of Jericho, and when they shouted and blew the trumpet, the walls came tumbling down (see Joshua 6).
- ❖ Paul and Silas were in jail. When they began to sing and worship God, the prison doors were opened and chains fell off the prisoners (see Acts 16:25-26).
- ❖ Satan cannot endure worship to God, so when there is trouble in your life, sing praises!
- ❖ No matter what situation you find yourself in, your war-cry is essential for your deliverance and protection.

### DISCUSSION/REFLECTION TOOLS

1. The battle cry of a child of God is prayer. Have you engaged in "warfare" using this method? What was the situation, what was the result?
2. The battle cry of a child of God is the Word. Give examples of scriptures that can be used to wage war against such things as depression, low self-esteem, etc.
3. The battle cry of a child of God is worship. Take time to worship God!

### Prayer Time

"The Lord is on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me?" (Psalm 116:8)

Start-up: Do you have a personal motto? If so, what is it? If not, what motto do you (or others in the group) think would suit you?

## WEEK OF SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2019

### NOTES

Meditate as you read through/listen to this week's message. If it helps, use symbols for your notes.

✓ (Reminds me/Confirms) 💡 (New idea) ☁️ (Think about)

👉 (Do this) ❤️ (Speaks to my heart) ↔️ (Must share)

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### PRAYER NEEDS/THANKSGIVINGS

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Go deeper with your Life Group family.  
CONNECT-REFLECT-DISSECT THE WORD  
Your Life Group ~ Your Lifeline