



UP TO VICTORY

LESSON ONE

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"Strength does not come from winning. Your struggles develop your strength. When you go through hardship and decide not to surrender, that is strength."
Arnold Schwarzenegger

Quoting one is gossip; quoting many is research.

INTRODUCTION

You are the product of what you hear!!!! People that are around negative conversations will find they will think negative. They think about what people say. So what we hear is very important. Remember the little song "Be careful little ears what you hear?" These lessons will give you the right hearing because you will find as your teacher I will give you the Word of God only. What I think or anyone else thinks does not matter. What God's Word says is what counts. We must learn to hear from the right sources.

I. WHAT WERE WE BEFORE WE MET CHRIST?

Eph 2:12

That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:

Many people come to Christ with problems that are so big that it will take God to figure it all out. Most of us were strangers to what God and His people were all about. His law meant nothing to us. We were not even sure what it said. As we work with people we must keep this in mind. Tell me who does not have a major problem in their life? Helping people will win them. Understand not to take on their responsibilities only show them the answer to their problem through the Word and allow them to take the action. Is that not what Jesus has done for us?

A. WHAT IS THE SECRET CODE TO VICTORY?

Eph 4:17

This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind,

We then are to change and walk as Christ and not as the world. This is the deep dark secret to success in God Kingdom. Faith then is the key to change. We have to have

faith in God without wavering to ever change and be like Him. If we waver then we will find our hearts =(feelings) turned back to the world and it is only a matter of time till we find ourselves in the same place or even worse then when God found us. The secret to victory then is to walk as Christ and not as men would lead us down the primrose path to failure.

James 2:17

Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.

Prayer without faith is nothing and without prayer there is nothing. So how do we get faith into prayer? There are two Faiths mention in the Word, one is doctrine and one is believing in God. Faith is hidden support of one's belief, work = response to God's Word. (Action)

Example story:

Jane wants to buy a new car. She asks God to help her to find the car she should have. The problem is Jane will not go shopping for a car. She just sits in her house each Saturday dreaming of the car she desires.

Sue also wants a new car. She prays and asked God to help her to find just the car she wants for the money that she can afford to pay. She goes shopping every Saturday for three weeks. One Saturday morning she walks on to the car lot and there sits the car of her dreams. She finds it is on sale and is just the right price that she can afford. Tell me who has the faith in God?

II. IN SECRET PRAYER (WITH EMOTION EVERY DAY)

2 Cor 4:16

For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.

Every day we walk up these secret stairs in our spirit to be renewed day by day through prayer. Faint in the scripture means not to give up, to be persistence

Ps 81:7

Thou calledst in trouble, and I delivered thee; I answered thee in the secret place of thunder:

Thunder - Heb. Word means violently, to irritate with anger, roar, make to fret, trouble.

We have to come before God with emotion. Be affected by the situation enough to be humble, cry, and be loud or do something.

Example Story:

Bill and Tom need a job. They had been laid off for two months and the money in their saving account was very low. Both had been attending church and knew that prayer was the answer. Bill's prayer:

Lord I need a job could you please help me. In less then two minutes Bill is out of the prayer room talking with his friends. Tom on the other hand goes to early Morning Prayer. He begins with worship of God praise for all God has done for him. He does this for about ten minutes. Then he begins to think about his children and wife. They

have so many needs that cannot be paid for now. He begins to cry and ask God to supply their needs with a job for him.

Now tell me which prayer is going to get the answer according to the scripture?

Isa 57:15

For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

Is this what Bill or Tom did? This is a perfect picture of prayer from the scripture.

III GOD'S CONTRACT WITH PRAYER WARRIORS!

The benefits of being a prayer warrior.

Ps 91:1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11

He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust. Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence (sense of destroying). He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his **truth** shall be thy shield and buckler. Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day; Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday. A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked. Because thou hast made the LORD, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation; There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling. For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.

God is our habitation in prayer. This also is part of his promise with us when we pray. Song 2:14

O my dove, that art in the clefts of the rock, in the secret places of the stairs, let me see thy countenance, let me hear thy voice; for sweet is thy voice, and thy countenance is comely.

The one that is allowed to come up is the one chosen by God because they will be the marked ones in prayer. You are only chosen because you pray.

IV. PLACE OF PRAYER

I King 8:21-22

And I have set there a place for the ark, wherein is the covenant, (means contract) of the LORD, which he made with our fathers, when he brought them out of the land of Egypt. And Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD in the presence of all the congregation of Israel, and spread forth his hands toward heaven: There was a place for the ark to dwell. The ark represents the presences of God.

2 Sam 7:10

Moreover I will appoint a place for my people Israel

What makes us the children of God? PRAYER!! Remember Cornelius.

V. HOUSE OF PRAYER

2 Chr 7:1-2-3-4

Now when Solomon had made an end of praying, the fire came down from heaven, and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices; and the glory of the LORD filled the house. And the priests could not enter into the house of the LORD, because the glory of the LORD had filled the LORD's house. And when all the children of Israel saw how the fire came down, and the glory of the LORD upon the house, they bowed themselves with their faces to the ground upon the pavement, and worshipped, and praised the LORD, saying, For he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever. Then the king and all the people offered sacrifices before the LORD.

Heb. 13:15 says the sacrifice is the fruit of our lips in the New Testament. Old Testament is a shadow of things in the New Testament.

VI. OUR CONTRACT (Promise)

Ps 5:7

But as for me, I will come into thy house in the multitude of thy mercy: and in thy fear will I worship toward thy holy temple.

It will be better to take your chances with God's mercy than with man's council.

Isa 56:7

Even them will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer: their burnt offerings and their sacrifices shall be accepted upon mine altar; for mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people.

VII. MARKED

Ps 37:37

Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright: for the end of that man is peace.

Ezek 9:4

And the LORD said unto him, Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof.

Ezek 9:6

Slay utterly old and young, both maids, and little children, and women: but come not near any man upon whom is the mark; and begin at my sanctuary. Then they began at the ancient men which were before the *house*.

Ezek 44:5

And the LORD said unto me, Son of man, mark well, and behold with thine eyes, and hear with thine ears all that I say unto thee concerning all the ordinances of the house of the LORD, and all the laws thereof; and mark well the entering in of the house, with every going forth of the sanctuary.

Phil 3:17

Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample.

VIII. PRAYER WARRIORS (MEN OF PRAYER IN OLD TESTAMENT)

Gen 18:22

And the men turned their faces from thence, and went toward Sodom: but Abraham stood yet before the LORD.

Abraham was a prayer warrior for Lot and his family. He made up the hedge. GOD NEEDED HIM TO DO THIS OR ELSE.

Ezek 22:30

And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none.

God needs prayer warriors to stop the wrath of God on the people.

Acts 3:1

Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, being the ninth hour.

Together, praying is stronger than one.

Neh 1:6

Let thine ear now be attentive, and thine eyes open, that thou mayest hear the prayer of thy servant, which I pray before thee now, day and night, for the children of Israel thy servants, and confess the sins of the children of Israel, which we have sinned against thee: both I and my father's house have sinned.

Nehemiah was a prayer warrior. He repented for all his kinfolks.

Gen 28:11-12-13

And he lighted upon a certain place, and tarried there all night, because the sun was set; and he took of the stones of that place, and put them for his pillows, and lay down in that place to sleep. And he dreamed, and behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven: and behold the angels of God ascending and descending on it. And, behold, the LORD stood above it, and said, I am the LORD God of Abraham thy father, and the God of Isaac: the land whereon thou liest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed;

Gen 28:17-18

And he was afraid, and said, "How dreadful is this place! this is none other but the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven." And Jacob rose up early in the morning, and took the stone that he had put for his pillows, and set it up for a pillar, and poured oil upon the top of it.

The gate to heaven is not in our house but, rather in the church. The oil is the anointing

IX. SEVEN STEPS

Ezek 40:26

And there were seven steps to go up to it, and the arches thereof were before them: and it had palm trees, one on this side, and another on that side, upon the posts thereof.

Palm trees represent praise and worship to God.

Ezek 40:27

And there was a gate in the inner court toward the south: and he measured from gate to gate toward the south an hundred cubits.

Gate is in the inner court. Praise and worship has ushered us into the inner court to the gate. Start all prayer with praise and worship.

Ezek 40:37

And the posts thereof were toward the utter court; and palm trees were upon the posts thereof, on this side, and on that side: and the going up to it had eight steps.

Remember the fourth door to prayer that another door was inside that door called travail? So we had a door within a door.

Ezek 40:47

So he measured the court, an hundred cubits long, and an hundred cubits broad, foursquare; and the altar that was before the house.

There is an altar and where do we find this altar, in our car, in our bedroom?

Ezek 41:4

So he measured the length thereof, twenty cubits; and the breadth, twenty cubits, before the temple: and he said unto me, This is the most holy place.

Our homes, our cars, are not called a holy place.

Ezek 41:12

Now the building that was before the separate place at the end toward the west was seventy cubits broad;

This building is in a separate place.

Ezek 42:20

He measured it by the four sides: it had a wall round about, five hundred reeds long, and five hundred broad, to make a separation between the sanctuary and the profane place.

X. WINDING UPWARD

Ezek 41:7

And there was an enlarging, and a winding about still upward to the side chambers: for the winding about of the house went still upward round about the house: therefore the breadth of the house was still upward, and so increased from the lowest chamber to the highest by the midst.

This building is in a separate place.

2 Chr 6:39-40

Then hear thou from the heavens, even from thy dwelling place, their prayer and their supplications, and maintain their cause, and forgive thy people which have sinned against thee. Now, my God, let, I beseech thee, thine eyes be open, and let thine ears be attent unto the prayer that is made in this place.

Acts 4:31

And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

The steps:

A. WE FIRST MUST UNDERSTOOD BY THE BOOKS

Dan 9:2

In the first year of his reign I Daniel understood by books the number of the years, whereof the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah the prophet, that he would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem.

Dan 9:13

As it is written in the law of Moses, all this evil is come upon us: yet made we not our prayer before the LORD our God, that we might turn from our iniquities, and understand thy truth.

Matt. 24:15

When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, whoso readeth, let him understand:

Eph 3:4

Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ)

Eph 4:18

Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart:

B. SEEK BY PRAYER & FASTING (Heb. word seek earnest prayer.

Dan 9:3

And I set my face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes:

C. REPENT & OBEY

Dan 9:10

Neither have we obeyed the voice of the LORD our God, to walk in his laws, which he set before us by his servants the prophets.

D. WE CHOOSE BLESSING OR CURSE.

Dan 9:11

Yea, all Israel have transgressed thy law, even by departing, that they might not obey thy voice; therefore the curse is poured upon us, and the oath that is written in the law of Moses the servant of God, because we have sinned against him.

E. HEAR O LORD.

Dan 9:17

Now therefore, O our God, hear the prayer of thy servant, and his supplications, and cause thy face to shine upon thy sanctuary that is desolate, for the Lord's sake.

F. HAVE MERCY

Dan 9:18

O my God, incline thine ear, and hear; open thine eyes, and behold our desolations, and the city which is called by thy name: for we do not present our supplications before thee for our righteousnesses, but for thy great mercies.

G. FORGIVE

Dan 9:19

O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive; O Lord, hearken and do; defer not, for thine own sake, O my God: for thy city and thy people are called by thy name.

H. ANGEL

Dan 9:20-21-22-23

And whiles I was speaking, and praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication before the LORD my God for the holy mountain of my God; Yea, whiles I was speaking in prayer, even the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, touched me about the time of the evening oblation. And he informed me, and talked with me, and said, O Daniel, I am now come forth to give thee skill and understanding. At the beginning of thy supplications the commandment came forth, and I am come to shew thee; for thou art greatly beloved: therefore understand the matter, and consider the vision.

Acts 10:3

He saw in a vision evidently about the ninth hour of the day an angel of God coming in to him, and saying unto him, Cornelius.

I. Results of the stairs

Eph 2:6

And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:

Eph 3:10

To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God,

Principalities=Greek word= rule, a commencement, chief, applications of order, time, place, rank, beginning, corner, magistrate.

II. At the top of the stairs is the LORD!

Ezek 48:35

It was round about eighteen thousand measures: and the name of the city from that day shall be, The LORD is there.

Name of the city we know as Heaven.

CONCLUSION

Ps 46:4-5

There is a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacles of the most High. God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved: God shall help her, and that right early.

The scripture calls the stairs a river, stream, the traffic on the stairs could be view as a stream of angles. God's promise to help the church and he would do it very fast.

Ps 65:4-5-6-8

Blessed is the man whom thou choolest, and causest to approach unto thee, that he may dwell in thy courts: we shall be satisfied with the goodness of thy house, even of thy holy temple. By **terrible** things in righteousness wilt thou answer us, O God of

our salvation; who art the confidence of all the ends of the earth, and of them that are afar off upon the sea:

Terrible=Heb. Word means, revere, frighten, be made afraid, dread. Satan better be afraid of us when we pray.

Ps. 65:8

Which by his strength setteth fast the mountains; being girded with power: WOW!

They also that dwell in the uttermost parts are afraid at thy **tokens**: **Heb. Word tokens means signs, gift, reminder, favor. Emblem.** thou makest the outgoings of the morning and evening to rejoice.

Who are they that their outgoings of the morning and evening rejoice? Why?

Ps 66:13-14

I will go into thy house with burnt offerings: I will pay thee my vows, Which my lips have uttered, and my mouth hath spoken, when I was in trouble.

HOW CAN WE NOT BE SUCCESSFUL IN OUR PRAYER LIFE?

Ps 66:18-19-20

If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me:

HOW CAN WE GET GOD TO HEAR US? **REPENT**

But verily God hath heard me; he hath attended to the voice of my prayer. Blessed be God, which hath not turned away my prayer, nor his mercy from me.

God Bless you as we put these principles into our lives.