

## PRACTICAL COURAGE

### MATTHEW CHAPTER SIX AND VERSE NINETEEN TO TWENTY-ONE

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#### KNOW THYSELF

The most dangerous part of spiritual warfare is ourselves. Our free will is an incredible gift from God, but it's probably the most fickle and treacherous part of ourselves.



The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it? **Jeremiah 17:9 NIV**

Another way of looking at spiritual warfare is the battle that rages between the flesh and the spirit. In previous sessions, we have studied the battle introduced in Eden and still rages in our psyches today.

This is why self-awareness is vital in becoming a victor, not a victim, in this crazy spiritual battle.

We have to learn the art of war. What do we need to protect? And how do we attack?

#### **PRACTICES THAT PROTECT AND COURAGE TO ATTACK**

**Peace is our greatest asset.** Even in the midst of battle, a good plan that leads to victory needs planning and strategy. Peace does not come when we are making decisions out of desperation. Lashing out or bursts of spiritual energy that create a fleeting sense of victory leave us feeling broken and desperate when they pass. Moving elements of our lives into the "Open Quadrant," or the Arena of Peace, will give us the greatest advantage over our spiritual enemies, one of whom is ourselves.

We need to be able to use the spiritual weapons we have been given to protect what God has done for us. We need to protect our hearts.



Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life. **Proverbs 4:23 NLT**

To guard our hearts, we are, in fact, protecting ourselves from the corrosion and erosion of the redemption of Jesus. We don't want it to be drained from us by the process of a flesh life. We do not use blame, shame, and condemnation to build walls of offense and hurt as our protective measure; we use practices that ensure we are constantly being encouraged to operate in the realm of what Jesus has done to our lives, not what life has done to us.



Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. **Matthew 6:19-21 NKJV**

In studying the Joharis Window, we find the practices we need to intentionally embrace so as to enable the spiritual weapons we have been given to protect what God has done in us. We need to protect our hearts.

In the "Open" Quadrant, we are given the **POWER OF PEACE** and the **WONDER OF WISDOM**.



The Lord gives strength to his people, and the Lord blesses his people with peace. **Psalms 29:11 NLT**

Blessing is an element of your identity and authority! When you know, they know, God knows, everyone knows, lies can not trap you, and secrecy will not dog you! And with that comes our next spiritual defense: **FREEDOM!**



And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free. **John 8:32 NLT**

Bringing the things in the **HIDDEN** area into the **OPEN**, you are blessed with **HEALING** through the growth of **TRANSPARENCY** with those you **TRUST**.



Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. **James 5:16 ESV**

When we can admit that we need help to understand something about ourselves and struggle through the issues in our **BLIND SPOT**, we develop a powerful weapon called **HUMILITY**. Humility is the seed of **VULNERABILITY**. If we are copying the mind of Christ, we copy His inability to stay within His comfort and understanding and truly make himself vulnerable to the point of death in defense of His beloved church and the attack on sin and Satan.

In the **UNKNOWN** space, seeking **REVELATION** through conversations with the **HOLY SPIRIT** and meditating on the **WORD** creates a self-awareness of your God-given authority, blessing, and purpose. In this arena of spiritual battle, we find the things of darkness being pulled into the place of light. We find our true **DELIVERANCE** through the forgiveness of the Father.



You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance". **Psalms 32:7 NLT**



But if we confess our sins to God, he will keep his promise and do what is right: he will forgive us our sins and purify us from all our wrongdoing.  
**1 John 1:9 KJV**

#### **TO LIST OUR SPIRITUAL DEFENSE AND ATTACK MECHANISMS:**

1. **The Power of Peace** protects us from desperation.
2. **The Wonder of Wisdom** keeps us from knee-jerk reactions
3. **Walking in Freedom** uncouples us from the erosion of blame, shame and condemnation.
4. **Accepting the Authority of Healing** attacks the lies of our past and the incapacitation of our circumstances.

5. **Transparency** demolishes hypocrisy and faulty foundations in our relationships.
6. **Building Your Trust** in God and others is a journey that provides stability in your life that is a death blow to the enemy's confusion and chaos.
7. We can't not be trapped by others' lies when we are **Humbly Vulnerable**.
8. **The Word of Knowledge and Wisdom Through Revelation** are gifts from the Holy Spirit that are the very grindstone that sharpens our two-edged Sword and cuts out evil, bad spirits, and ungodly attitudes in the process of **Deliverance**.



The word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. **Hebrews 4:12 NLT**

## YOUR STUDY



**Conduct an AIR Study AND Linked Learning of Matthew 6:19-21 and Hebrews 4:12.**

## SUMMARY QUESTIONS

1. Another name for spiritual war is the war of your thoughts - discuss?
2. How are deliverance and forgiveness linked?
3. How does Solomon prioritize the warfare of the heart? Discuss.
4. All gifts of the Spirit are weapons of warfare - discuss some gifts and how they are used in war.
5. What is the correct posture of revelation?