

## **Building Your Own Battle Plan** Rev. Bill Berry ... Battle Plan Ministry

You will only be able to build a personal, written battle plan if you are in total surrender to God, The Holy Spirit. **Proverbs 3: 5 - 6** puts it out for us ...

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<sup>5</sup> Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding;  
<sup>6</sup> in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.

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So, if you really are serious and want to apply **The Battle Plan Against Habitual Sin** to your own life, being in surrender mode to God is going to be essential. It's really the attitude expressed by God's word through the Apostle James in **James 1: 5 - 6** ...

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<sup>5</sup> If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. <sup>6</sup> But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt; because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind.

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### **Question 1: Have you completely surrendered your life to Christ?**

- What is your written Christian testimony? In other words, are you saved; and can you share it?
- In terms of surrender, I ask you ... who is your mentor?
- Does your prayer life reflect surrender; is it a **1<sup>st</sup> Thes. 5: 17**, breathing, prayer life?
- Are there areas of your life which, through conviction, you know have not been surrendered to the Holy Spirit?
- Is Christ the Lord of your life? How does **2<sup>nd</sup> Cor. 12: 9** play out in your life? Do you know your weaknesses and what is God's plan for you to avoid or stand in these areas of struggle?

### **Question 2: Are you a well trained, well prepared, warrior?**

- Well, in redundancy; have you been specific and honest in answering Question #1? You will fail in the rest of this endeavor if you've fluffed over #1.
- A soldier is almost never any stronger than his/her leaders. So, "Who are your leaders?" To whom do you submit as Elders, Pastors, Mentors, Teachers, etc.; and how are you submitted to them?
- How are you living to conform to **Luke 9: 23**? (First you simply MUST have that verse understood and memorized!)
- How prepared are you as a swordsman of God's Word? Do you believe and follow the truths from all of **Psalm 119** and **Joshua 1: 8**?
- How are you being disciplined toward Christlikeness (i.e., being like Christ from **Matt. 11: 29** or **Gal. 5: 22, 23**)?
- Do you fully understand the precepts of **Eph. 6: 10-18**; and how are you wearing God's full armor for daily battle?
- Are you disciplined in daily devotionals; and does this work itself out in your life?
- Again, what is meant, in your life, by prayer being the high ground for battle?
- What are your 2.2:22 avoidance strategies [see **2<sup>nd</sup> Tim. 2: 22**]? Be specific to the circumstances and habits of your life?
  - o ? Computer use strategies ? ... Accountability software ? ... Online tools/resources ? ...
  - o ? If married, teamwork strategies with wife ? ... Home/marriage leadership strategies ?
  - o ? Fellowship and worship strategies ? ...
  - o ? If single, ... key relationships, such as a mentor or accountability circles ? ...
- **Prov. 23: 7** and **Phil. 4: 8** filtering strategies – how do you protect your mind on an ongoing basis?

### **Question 3: Are you following God's marching orders into battle?**

- Redundancy teaches! How are you LIVING in God's word? How are you practicing **Joshua 1: 8** in your life?
- How is **Proverbs 3: 5 - 6** being reflected as your marching orders?
- Who are you following who has the "right stuff?" How are you following these leaders?
- Do you have a Berean Attitude (see **Acts 17: 10 - 15**)?
- What, in your life, reflects a strong pattern of commitment to the Church [see **Heb. 10: 24-25**]?

### **Question 4: Have you found the battle; or rather, has the battle found you?**

- Of course, the battle will come to you! But how are you prepared to do battle? Do you know and believe the promises of **1<sup>st</sup> Cor. 10: 13**? How is this evidenced in your life? What can and will you do to make this truth a reality for your life?
- Likewise, do you believe and live in the truth of **2<sup>nd</sup> Cor. 12: 9**? What are your weaknesses? What can you do to shore them up? What must you leave for God in the promise of **Matt. 11: 28-30**?
- Again, ... do you dress for battle each day in the reality of **Eph. 6: 13 – 18**, wearing the full armor of God? What would your life look like if you wore ALL the armor? Which elements of the defensive armor do you need to improve?
- How is your swordsmanship in Christ (as described in **Eph. 6: 18, Joshua 1: 8, and Ps. 119: 9, 11**)? Can you stand against the enemy as Christ did in **Matthew 4 or Luke 4**? What can you do to implant God's word deeply in your mind/heart?
- Is Christ's mission your mission (see **Luke 4: 18**)? And where does your life stand with regard to the fruit of the Spirit (see **Gal. 5: 22 – 23**) as opposed to the fruit of the flesh (see **Gal. 5: 19 – 21**)? Which of the fruit of the Spirit need maturing ... and how?
- Is your life characterized by **Romans 7: 14 – 23**; or is your life pictured by **Romans 8**? Are you living under condemnation or conviction? How can you live in Romans 8 as opposed to Romans 7? What can you do TODAY, as well as tomorrow, to be a Romans 8 warrior?

#### Question 5: Do you have victory in Christ?

- Do you understand AND live in the truth of **John 19: 30**, where Jesus said from the cross, "***It is finished?***" How is the truth of **John 8: 32**, that the Truth will set you free, a reality for you life? What must you do to allow God's truth to set you free?
- Which parts of Christ's command in **Luke 9: 23** do you find lacking in your life? And what can you be doing short-term and long term to truly deny self, take up your cross[es] daily, and follow Christ?
- Do you truly believe and live out the truth of **Prov. 3: 5 – 6**, trusting God completely and absolutely in ALL things and letting Him guide your path? What can you set in motion to let God guide your path? What goals can you set to live in this truth? [Remember goals must be RUMBA (Reasonable – Understandable – Measureable – Behavioral – Achievable) and they must be written and dated?]
- Do you understand the decision making power of **Phil. 4: 6 – 7**? What decisions can you use the promises of this passage to help guide your life?

#### **Summary Questions and Challenges ...**

- Are you a serious disciple of Christ? Do you really believe and desire to make **Phil. 1: 6** a reality FOR YOU ... to become more like Christ today than yesterday ... and even more like Him tomorrow than today?
- If so - and I assume so! - what is standing in your way?
- If you're willing to answer the questions in this battle plan building document with WRITTEN ANSWERS, and you will pray diligently for God's mind (as in **James 1: 5 – 6**) and His direction (as in **Prov. 3: 5 – 6**), your life will be transformed (as described by God's word in **Romans 12: 1 – 2**). The question is not, "Will it happen?" That's God's promise! The question is, "Will you do what it takes to surrender to God's Spirit and let Him make it happen in you?" And that question is yours to answer!
- The Battle Plan Ministry challenge is straight forward. If you're not willing to develop a written battle plan (as directed by the guidelines in this document), it is highly unlikely that you're really serious about taking up Christ's challenge from **Luke 9: 23** ... and prayerfully you know that one by heart by now ... to deny yourself, ... to take up your crosses daily, ... and to follow Christ.

The decision is yours ... and the future is yours (with God to guide you). And Battle Plan Ministry is ready to help.

For that help, contact Rev. Bill Berry – **901-921-2148** – Email: [billb13@bellsouth.net](mailto:billb13@bellsouth.net)