

*Cedar Grove Church Discipleship Training*  
*Session IV – June 1, 2014*  
*6:30 PM*  
*“The Reality of a Cosmic Conflict for the Souls of People”*  
*Part II*

**Things We have Learned Regarding the Spiritual Conflict:**

The spiritual battle is a **M**\_\_\_\_\_ to an end. It is not an end in and of itself. The real issue is **W**\_\_\_\_\_, **E**\_\_\_\_\_, the lost and dying souls of people for whom Christ Jesus gave His life as an atoning sacrifice for sins. God desires all people to be saved and Satan and his army intend to keep people from being saved, bound and blinded to His grace.

--The churches role: We are called to be “A House of Prayer for All Nations.”

The spiritual warfare is **R**\_\_\_\_\_ and **I**\_\_\_\_\_. Our enemy, Satan, is the mortal enemy of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Our enemy is relentless and full of wrath. He is intentional and persistent.

We examined the truth that when we become God’s child we immediately become a part of the Lord’s global campaign of spiritual sabotage. We also looked at our role as the people of God to enter into the spiritual battle by taking an intermediary’s role, to **D**\_\_\_\_\_ in **P**\_\_\_\_\_ the **P**\_\_\_\_\_ of God on the earth. Paul wrote about this in Ephesians 3:10 – 12.

We saw that there are vast amounts of difference between the Biblical pictures of the general sense of God’s presence or **O**\_\_\_\_\_ and the **M**\_\_\_\_\_ **P**\_\_\_\_\_ of God on the earth.

We saw that there are vast amounts of difference between **R**\_\_\_\_\_ of the Holy Spirit God does in His people and the **R**\_\_\_\_\_ of God, His powerful presence poured out on the earth in the lives of lost people.

We saw that our role is to be **I**\_\_\_\_\_ who cry out to God for a **H**\_\_\_\_\_ **I**\_\_\_\_\_ here on earth. Praying His will into existence is definitely work God has committed to His church because only those who know and love Him can intercede before Him on behalf of others. The picture the Bible paints for us is that between God’s holy throne and the enemy’s kingdom on the earth stands the **humble P**\_\_\_\_\_ **C**\_\_\_\_\_ **of God!**

*--II Chronicles 7:14 “If my people, who are called by my Name, will humble themselves and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land.”*

**I. Proclaiming Christ’s Authority**

Far too many people tend to think we have been given all power over the enemy. That is not consistent with what the Scriptures teach us. As noted previously, Paul declares the truth in Ephesians 3:10 – 12 that we have only been given Christ’s delegated authority to proclaim His

power in the spiritual warfare. The A \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus Christ to declare and proclaim His victory and his power over the enemy in the earth is given to His church as intercessory and warfare P \_\_\_\_\_ W \_\_\_\_\_ we are called and anointed to do.

*“I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.” (Luke 10:19-20)*

*“In Him and through faith in Him WE MAY APPROACH GOD WITH FREEDOM AND CONFIDENCE” (Emphasis mine).*

**The Lord Jesus is the I** \_\_\_\_\_ of what we pray and do regarding the spiritual warfare. This is a vital principle for us to understand. In giving prayer instructions to His twelve disciples in the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus made this very clear in the text of Matthew 16:

*“I will build my church and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.” (Matthew 16:18)*  
[will not be able to stand up against it.]

Matthew 16:19 *“I will give you [all] the keys of the kingdom of heaven.”*

*“Whatever you bind on earth [will have already been bound] in heaven.”*

*“Whatever you loose on earth [will have already been loosed] in heaven.”*

In the church body we have been delegated Christ’s authority to P \_\_\_\_\_ and C \_\_\_\_\_ His power and provisions of victory in our lives, for one another, and for the unbelieving, oppressed, bound or blinded. Notice, however, some key issues to this delegated authority.

--It is Jesus Christ who builds His kingdom and who grows His Church.

--It is the Lord Jesus who is the prime mover in spiritual warfare issues/assignments. We are to declare and proclaim only what He has already decided in heaven is HIS WILL!

--The implied central issue to our possessing the keys of His kingdom of the heart is relational intimacy with God. He is M \_\_\_\_\_ and S \_\_\_\_\_; I am His L \_\_\_\_\_, F \_\_\_\_\_, and S \_\_\_\_\_!

In this training session we are going to begin to open up our arsenal of spiritual weaponry. We are looking at the R \_\_\_\_\_ of W \_\_\_\_\_ as essential to the spiritual arsenal. As we do so, it is really important that we remember we are after the manifest presence of God, the powerful moving of His Holy Spirit on the earth in our sphere of influence.

--Our desire is for Him to have His rightful place as the King of Glory in our geographic region.

--We long for His visitation in His church in renewal and His habitation through the church in revival power among the prechristians and unchurched around us. This is the essence of the spiritual warfare!

## **II. The Requirement of Worship**

Consider the story of the King Jehoshaphat and the Israelite people being invaded by an army built on an evil alliance found in II Chronicles 20:1 – 22. When these forces invaded them, the King went to the Lord in prayer, pouring out his heart to Him. His prayer is recorded in verses 5 through 12 of the text. There is a classic line we should all remember and learn from in verse 12. *“O our God, will you not judge them? For we have no power to face this vast army that is attacking us. We do not know what to do but our eyes are on you.”*

What a tremendous principle for us to remember in our spiritual warfare against forces we cannot defeat. **Our H R are no M** for the **E**. We have no power to win the spiritual battle in which we are engaged. We are wholly dependent on the Lord Jesus’ victory and our delegated authority from Him.

The prophet, Jahaziel, spoke of the Lord’s desire to have them see His victory against insurmountable odds. Notice with me the action words: They were to **P O** their battle attire, **M O** against the enemy, **T T P** in the battle line, and **W**! They waged the warfare in a rather unorthodox military strategy.

--They appointed singers to march out before them who sang, *“Give thanks to the Lord, for his love endures forever.”* What a way to fight a war!

--In verse 22 we read the results of this rather strange way to fight a war. *“As they began to sing and praise, the Lord set ambushes against the men of Ammon and Moab who were invading Judah, and they were defeated.”*

When the Lord called me to the ministry of being a Senior Pastor, He gave me a Scripture that was to guide my life and ministry. It is a powerful Scripture text that speaks to His desire to be **A**, to have us **S** our **H** and lives to Him, and to **M** His **G** in our midst. Isaiah 64:1-4

This powerful text of Scripture speaks to the issue of worshipping the Lord passionately. It must be remembered that **P** for God is a **C of the H**. The more passionate we choose to be about worshipping Him, the deeper into His heart we go.

We then have the privilege of moving from passion for Him to perception through relational intimacy with Him! Another way to say this is that when we worship we get an eye full of God to have a God’s **E V**!

## **III. The Worshipper’s Heart**

Here is the bottom line, sons and daughters of God. As His people we must be sharpened and honed, equipped and prepared for usefulness by the Master. When we worship the Lord God

Almighty in meaningful and personal experiences, we are radically **C** \_\_\_\_\_ **within,**  
**I** \_\_\_\_\_, **T** \_\_\_\_\_, and as a result, we are enabled to see the enemy's  
works in our sphere of influence much more clearly.

--Isaiah's heart cry flowed from his perspective on his society. He knew their only hope  
was for God to come to them and give them a new manifestation of His holy presence.  
He cried out, "Oh God come down."

How pertinent and relevant is this to our society in North America? The context of this Scripture  
was the slow erosion of godliness over time. They had fallen far away from the Lord Jehovah  
and had embraced **I** \_\_\_\_\_, **M** \_\_\_\_\_, and **P** \_\_\_\_\_ as a way of  
life. Likewise, our society today, in North America, has experienced tremendously slow erosion  
of morality and internal demise.

I believe this passage of Scripture speaks to us today about being on the cutting edge for God,  
sharpened and honed in **S** \_\_\_\_\_ **R** \_\_\_\_\_ **for B** \_\_\_\_\_ through intimacy with  
the Lord Jesus in personal and public worship of Him. Worship connects us to Him and moves  
us to see profoundly that we are powerless and He is all-powerful. Genuine worship teaches us  
the beauty of learning to "Wait on the Lord."

In Isaiah 64:4, 5 we are taught the truth that **God ministers to the H** \_\_\_\_\_, **the**  
**A** \_\_\_\_\_, **and the M** \_\_\_\_\_ **of His spiritual warriors** as we engage in worship. In  
worship we decide to wait for God, to gladly do what we know to be right, and to walk in His  
ways. When I do these three things, I am a person who can and does invite God to tear open the  
darkness of my surroundings and to step into the human and earthly arena manifesting His glory  
and majesty here and now! When I invite God to step into my world, I am essentially asking Him  
for two things to happen:

--First, that lost people will be drawn to truly see Him.

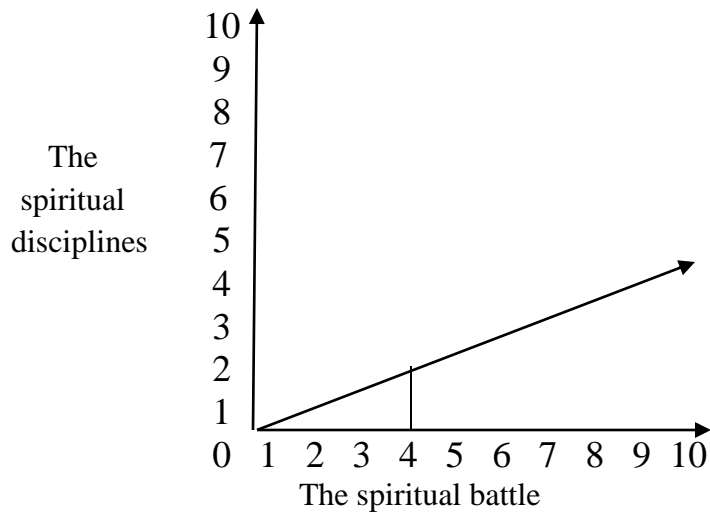
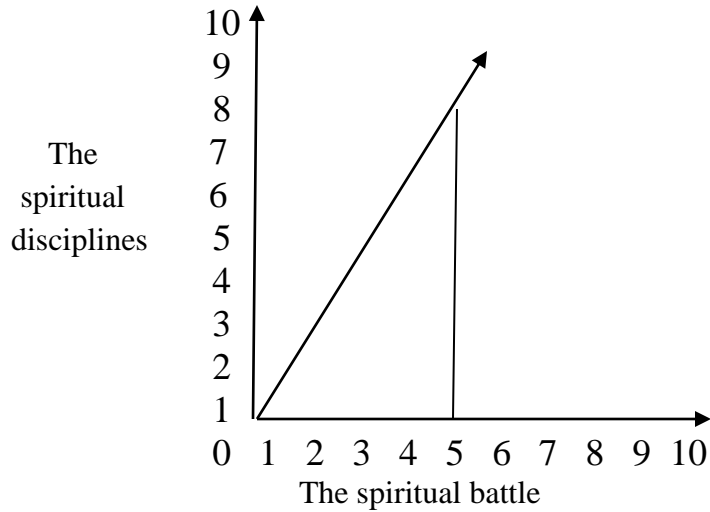
--Secondly, that people see sin and darkness for what they truly are, the ugly works of the  
enemy, imprisoning them, and enslaving them.

#### **IV. Authority through Relationship with Him**

Our authority in spiritual warfare flows out of our relationship with Jesus Christ. Apart from  
Him we have no authority. "*Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,* ' says the Lord  
*Almighty.*" Zechariah 4:6 It is important to understand that spiritual warfare involves two parts:

- (1) The **U** \_\_\_\_\_ **move in W** \_\_\_\_\_ is moving toward God's heart, being  
taught and trained by the Lord for the spiritual battle. Moving upward is to enlist  
in spiritual boot camp, to be disciplined and trained for warfare in His purposes.
- (2) The **O** \_\_\_\_\_ **move is C** \_\_\_\_\_ **to R** \_\_\_\_\_ the enemy in  
declaring the will of God in intercessory prayer. Moving outward is to choose to  
enter the spiritual struggle for the souls of people we love.

**The Principle:** It is extremely dangerous to attempt to move too far outward without first moving far enough upward. Consider the following as a visual illustration:



Our authority in spiritual warfare will be directly proportionate to the degree of intimacy with God we cultivate in our relationship with Jesus Christ. The Captain of the hosts, our King Jesus, must be Lord and Commander in Chief. We surrender our will, our desires, and our very lives to God.

**V. The Battle Belongs to the Lord**

Ephesians 6:10 – 13 **“Finally be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.”**

In this battle for the souls of others the Lord God only **U            D            P            !**

The Parable of the Kernel of Wheat: John 12:23, 24

You have arrived at the exact time when the essence of true spiritual life will be played out on the stage of the city of Jerusalem. You missed the miracles but you'll see the Cross, which is the E\_\_\_\_\_ of my M\_\_\_\_\_!

A spiritual paradox: As a seed must die to produce life, so must we D\_\_\_\_\_ to this life, our W\_\_\_\_\_ and our W\_\_\_\_\_ if we would know the power of His divine life in our hearts.

If Jesus were to hold fast to His life on earth, seeking to avoid the cross He would really forfeit eternal life for every man and woman on this planet. But in L\_\_\_\_\_ God the Father supremely He had already made the choice to H\_\_\_\_\_ this L\_\_\_\_\_.

In this life you don't control what you love – you serve it and better it.

Galatians 2:20, II Corinthians 5:14, 15, Matthew 16:24, 25

## **VI. The Worshipper's Sight when He has Come to Us**

The worshipper's sight, when God has come to our hearts at deep and personal levels in our churches, and ultimately in revival power in our community, is described for us in the powerful passage from Isaiah's pen.

In Isaiah 64:8 – 12 he writes about his perspective poured into the hearts of the worshippers:

Notice what Isaiah writes in that passage. He talks about what was important to them being in ruins. They have experienced God's displeasure with them; He has turned His face away from them. He writes about His longing to have the people of Israel to experientially know God's will, perspective on their culture, and ultimately choose to honor and revere the Lord.

--We, like them, can only be given this perception as we connect meaningfully with Him in worship, abandoning ourselves to Him.

You know what I think is the greatest thing about the manifest glory of God on the earth? As the prophet Isaiah writes in the text 64:2, "*Come down to make you name known to your enemies, and cause the nations to quake before you.*" Beloved ones, this is what I want to see: our enemies, the beings of darkness indigenous to our geographic region, get a divine visitation!

I've read about this in Scripture. Now I'd like to see what it looks like today when the enemy's arrogant evil beings are visited by the manifest presence and glory of the Lord Jesus Christ. How about you? Even so, come Lord Jesus!

## **Concluding Thoughts to Share:**