



BECOMING AN OVERCOMER – Bible Study Notes

Objective

Everyone who experiences any measure of success in any form has overcome something. This bible study will help you with certain fundamental things which you need to understand in order to become the overcomer that you really are.

Introduction

The life of dominion is a life of overcoming. The story of success in any endeavour you undertake is the story of overcoming. The truth is that because of Jesus, we have already overcome...but there is a process required, a mindset that allows you to become the victor that Jesus has already made you into, in the Spirit.

So, overcoming for the believer is not trying to win, no, we have already won in Christ. Overcoming for the believer is manifesting our victory. The enemy cannot change the score sheet, you have already won in Christ, that is settled. But what He can do is to cause you to live your life defeated and subdued. It is our responsibility as people who love Jesus to manifest the victory that He won on our behalf.

Here are 3 fundamental things we need to understand in order to operate as the overcomers that we already are:

1- Understand what you need to overcome

Mark 4:18 Let's look at what there is to overcome. If you don't know what the stumbling blocks are you will not have an effective strategy to overcome them.



**18 - Now these are the ones sown among thorns; they are the ones who hear the word,
19 - and the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things entering in choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful. (Mark 4:18, 19 NKJV)**

So, notice that the Word was sown...but in this particular situation, the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches and the desire for other things entered into the same space as the WORD and they got into the place where they choked the WORD.

Everything in this world started with the Word of God. The best that God has for you is in the Word of God. The Word of God is the path to the best expression of who you are. The Word of God is incorruptible seed. The enemy knows this so puts things in your way that are stumbling blocks to the advancement of the Word. Stumbling blocks to the Word in your life are stumbling blocks to your success.

3 key things that challenge the Word

the cares of this World: these are the things that are of no eternal significance. These are things to do with what to eat, what to wear, what to drink, where to live, what they said, what they didn't say, the job, the business, the career...these things are important.

They have their place; however, they are not satisfied with staying in their place, they want to take the place of the Word of God in your heart. And if you will become an overcomer, you have got to learn that the cares of this world need to be dominated or else they will dominate you! If they are not overcome, they take up a disproportionate amount of space in your heart.

I think that one of the problems with the church and believers in our time is that we have allowed the cares of this world determine what we do with the Word of God, as opposed to allowing the Word of God influence what we do with the cares of this World.



The overcomer needs to understand that nothing takes precedence over the Word of God. To overcome you need to learn to be free from the cares of this world. Here is how I determine if something is a care in this world, will it matter in eternity?

Question for you...where is the Word of God compared to the cares of this World? Are the cares of this world guiding you? Or is the Word guiding you?

The deceitfulness of riches: This is something that both the rich and the poor need to overcome. To be an overcomer you will need to understand that riches have a deceptive pull on both the poor and the rich! The poor is deceived by thinking if only I was rich...the rich is deceived into thinking now that I am rich.

This pull is a problem that needs to be overcome. Because the truth is that whether you are rich or poor, success in life is a product of God's Word! Anything that suggests otherwise is a hurdle that needs to be overcome!

Other things: This is just anything that is juxtaposed to the word of God...to become the overcomer the you are destined to be, you need to understand that anything that contradicts the word of God is to be overcome!

What is it that you need to overcome, which category does it fall into? In The book of Matthew 13, Jesus tells us a parable of How good seed is sown in a field and then the enemy shows up and sows tares, or weed, in the field, it's a picture of what the enemy wants to do in us. He sees the Word sown in your heart and he wants to sow other things...to become an overcomer we need to learn to recognise the things that are choking the Word of God. Anything that pulls you away from God's word is to be overcome!



2- Understand the tool for overcoming - If you will become an overcomer you will need to know your tool for overcoming! If you don't know the tool you are supposed to use for overcoming, you will spend your life learning how to use other tools that will not give you victory! So many of you are spending your life on something that will not bring you victory. Don't bring a knife to a machine gun fight. Use the right tool.

So, let's look at the tool for overcoming...because we want to know it, focus on it and work it!

1 John 5: 4 - For whatever is born of God is victorious over the world;

If you read from verse one you will know that the person who is born of God is the one who believes in Jesus (the Word).

well the bible says that you are victorious over the WORLD!

Someone say I AM VICTORIOUS OVER THE WORLD!

What do we mean when we say the WORLD...remember **1 John 2:16**...tells us what we find in the WORLD...and that is the Lust of the flesh(cares of this world), the lust of the eyes(desire for other things), the pride of life (deceitfulness of riches)... these 3 things are the same as the 3 things that choked the WORD in the Mark 4...and all of our challenges in life...whatever shape or size they come under will fall into these categories in one way or the other.

And so, the apostle john says here that those who are born of God are victorious over the world! They overcome the lust of the eyes, they overcome the lust of the flesh, they overcome the pride of life.

But then HE goes on to tell us how to overcome...he says



and this is the victory that conquers the world, even our faith.

The key to victory in life is faith. The key to overcoming that redundancy, relationship issue, fear, complacency, stagnation, is faith! This is why everything the enemy does in your life is about attacking your faith! Because your faith is the victory that overcomes the world

Hebrews 11:1 in the amplified says - NOW FAITH is the assurance (the confirmation, the title deed) of the things [we] hope for, being the proof of things [we] do not see and the conviction of their reality [faith perceiving as real fact what is not revealed to the senses]. (Hebrews 11:1 AMP)

God has designated that it is your faith that will make you an overcomer! Show me someone that you will describe as an overcomer in any way, I will show you someone who believed in something they could not yet see! You will not overcome God's way by your might or your power it will be by faith! You cannot be an overcomer if you do not practice the discipline of perceiving as real that which is not currently visible to the eye!

Faith is a muscle; you have to be purposeful about building your faith...Practice seeing your future! Keep seeing your future until what you see is more real to you than what you see in the natural! Abram saw himself with a son, and with children as much as the sand on the seashore and the stars in the sky that when God asked Him to kill His son, he was able to do for the scripture says that Abraham reasoned that God could raise Him back from the dead! **(Hebrews 11:19)**

This is the victory that overcomes the World, even our faith! You will become an overcomer when you become skilful at walking in faith!



Don't complicate matters, you have all you need to overcome any situation in life. ONLY BELIEVE! **(Mark 5:36)** Don't let anything tell you otherwise! All you need is faith! This is why you owe it to yourself to discover what faith is and how it works. This is why you must never accept any thought or expectation that isn't faith filled! This is why you need to invest in knowing what it is that you need to learn to overcome. Because you might be protecting your house, whilst the enemy is stealing your faith!

3- Understand the source and power of your faith

So, if you want to be great at using your faith, you need to understand the source and power of your faith. What is it that makes your faith powerful? most people have faith in having faith...or faith in the written word...what is it about this confirmation number you have that makes you confident? Is it the ink or paper that it is printed on, is it the font used to write it?

What is the substance of our faith?

let's go back to 1 John 5...look at verse 5 as John clarifies...

5 - Who is it that is victorious over [that conquers] the world but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God [who adheres to, trusts in, and relies on that fact]? (1 John 5:4, 5 AMP)

HE says the one that is victorious over the WORLD is the one that BELIEVES that JESUS is the SON OF GOD! He says that it is he who adheres to, trusts in and relies on that fact!

Now here is the thing...even the devil believes that Jesus is the SON OF GOD...so it's good to believe that Jesus is the SON OF GOD, BUT There is something about this JESUS, THE SON OF GOD...THAT GIVES US THE FAITH THAT OVERCOMES...THE



FAITH OF AN OVERCOMER IS NOT JUST CONSENTING TO THE TRUTH THAT JESUS IS THE SON OF GOD

Revelation 12:11 And they have defeated him by the blood of the Lamb and by their testimony. And they did not love their lives so much that they were afraid to die. (Revelation 12:11 NLT)

If you will overcome this world, and the god of this world, you will need faith a kind of faith that looks like this

- Faith that overcomes the world is faith that is based on the assurance that comes from knowing that Jesus died and shed His blood for you. A faith that truly understand that the blood of Jesus was spilled in place of your blood.
- Faith that overcomes the world is faith that testifies of what the blood of Jesus has done! It is a faith that speaks the same thing that the blood of Jesus speaks. **(Hebrews 12:24)** It is a faith that stands in courts where accusations are brought against them to testify of what the blood has achieved, even in the face of accusations by the enemy.
- Faith that overcomes the world is faith that is lived out actively, without the fear of death!

Conclusion

Joshua 10:24-25 So it was, when they brought out those kings to Joshua, that Joshua called for all the men of Israel, and said to the captains of the men of war who went with him, "Come near, put your feet on the necks of these kings." And they drew near and put their feet on their necks. Then Joshua said to them, "Do not be afraid, nor be dismayed; be strong and of good courage, for thus the Lord will do to all your enemies against whom you fight."



Joshua means Saviour. He is a type of Jesus. He defeats these enemy kings and invites us to put our foot on the neck of our enemies. He intended for us to always remember that the place where every enemy of the will of God for your life belongs is under your foot. This is the posture we must take in life. Jesus has already defeated the enemy on our behalf! You are an overcomer!

(Read Romans 8:31-38)

Discussion points

- What challenges will you say you have faced recently? Which of these categories would you say it falls under? Cares of this world, deceitfulness of riches, desire for other things?
- What kinds of things often hinder us from truly accepting that faith is all you need to overcome?
- What does faith look like in theory and in practice?
- What feeds your faith?