The Christian Global Harvest

Where You Get To Share Your Story

Welcome to a newsletter that has you in mind!



"Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world." 1 John 4:4.

Blessed be the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! And welcome back to another exciting edition of power and encouragement!

Now that we have finished with the subjects of what Real Fans and Players Do, I want to talk about *Winning the Battles of Life*. We need to be assured that we are in this race to win! Regardless of the struggles! Let's get started.

Most people aren't prepared for major spiritual attacks in their lives, nor are they prepared for major blessings in their lives! Well, what do I mean by this?

Every day many people find themselves under tremendous spiritual attacks. And most of them are not prepared in any way for the onslaught of the destruction that Satan brings into their lives. And when the attacks are over, their lives are all torn and beat up. While on the other hand, there are people who have been blessed and are just as unprepared to deal with all of God's blessings as those who are unprepared to deal with major spiritual attacks.

What am I saying? If you want to win, if you truly want to win, then you will have to prepare to WIN! The crown comes after the victory, and the victory comes through much trials and temptations. You can't have the victory without the struggle, the press, the endurance. I feel the power of God as I write this!

Let me share a personal observation from dealing with people over 40 years of ministry. Most people CHOOSE to stay on the sidelines because it is safe there. The fact is, they don't really want to be abundantly blessed and they really don't want to suffer any major spiritual attacks. They say they want to be abundantly blessed, but they don't want to pay the price to receive and be responsible for those blessings. They have come to know that to whom much is given, much is required. So they just stay on the sideline with no stomach to be tested.

Moreover, they live their lives defensively to try and ward off

any major spiritual attacks. Their strategy is to do as little as possible for the Lord so as not to bring attention to themselves. My God!

So they live under the radar of life thinking they won't be detected. They found that the safest place is the sideline. There they can see what is going on and not be hit by adversities. Sitting in a pew on Sunday morning, attending a few Christian events during the year, going to an occasional Bible study, and helping out here and there, but for the most part keeping their heads down and just trying to be safe and basically undetected or not bothered. Perhaps you know someone who fits this description.

But here is the problem with such strategy...IT DOESN'T WORK! Here is another problem: it goes against God's Word! God never expected His children to be passive in their faith, but ACTIVE!

James 2:17 teaches us, "Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone." James is writing to Believers to let us know that good works flow FROM our salvation. In other words, if you have truly accepted Christ into your heart and life by faith, if you have been "born again," it is natural that good works will flow from your life! Good works can't flow from your life if you are sitting on the sideline! We have got to get involved and win the battles! Win the championships! Win the Gold Medals of a godly life!

Next month we'll continue with this exciting, time-sensitive subject! Stay tuned!

Willie J. Moore

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Evangelist Diana Black-Tucker

Founder and President: Vineyard Bible Ministry - San Diego, California

Overt Operation: Know Your True Enemy Part III

Greetings, Everyone!

Last month, we started learning how to defeat our true enemy, Satan, with the Word of God. This month, we will continue to learn to defeat him with obedience. According to **Matthew 4:1-11**, Christ was being tempted by Satan. Satan wanted Christ to worship and honor him. However, that did not impede Satan from trying again. This time, Satan took Christ to the holy city, Jerusalem (**Matthew 4:5**; **Nehemiah 11:1**; **Isaiah 52:1**).

So why did Satan take Christ to Jerusalem? In Revelation 21:2 (ESV), John describes Jerusalem, "And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband." Verse 10 (ESV), "And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God." The reason is that the Spirit of God dwells there, and that is where Satan wants to be. After arriving there, Satan took Christ to the pinnacle of the temple.

According to author Taylor Halverson, Ph.D., the pinnacle (pictured right) was a platform at the top of the southwestern corner of the temple mount. This is the location where, at regular intervals each day, a Jewish priest would blow a loud horn to capture everyone's attention in the city to remind them to engage in worshipful prayer. From where the Jewish priest stood to blow his horn, the plaza below may have been a drop of more than 164 feet, more than 15 stories tall (*Learning at the Feet of the Savior, 2018*). Satan said to Jesus, "If you are the Son of God, jump off! For the Scriptures say, 'He will order his angels to protect you. And they will hold you up with their hands, so you won't even hurt your foot on a stone." (Matthew 4:6, NLT). Satan misquoted the Scripture (Psalm 91:11-12) and was anticipating manipulating Christ into sinning against God.



That is how the enemy operates, through manipulation to cause a believer to not only sin against God but to "experiment" to see if God truly protects them. 1 John 4:1 (ESV) says, "Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world." We are encouraged to test the spirits to see if they are from God. We are not supposed to test God (Deuteronomy 6:16). God promised that He is with us (Isaiah 4:10), and He has plans for us (Jeremiah 29:11), and God does not withhold from those who walk uprightly (Psalm 84:11). Christ defeated Satan again with the Word of God while remaining obedient, "It is said, You shall not put the Lord your God to the test." (Matthew 4:12, ESV). Christ is illustrating again that we can defeat Satan with the Word of God through obedience. Stay encouraged!

Satan knows that believers tend to get anxious and may even doubt God's intentions in their lives because of so many things that are happening, and they feel that they cannot get a break. Satan is hoping that you give up, sin, and abandon your relationship with God. Well, Saints, that is not going to happen because the God of hope fills you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit, you may abound in hope (**Romans 15:13**, *ESV*). Satan has been defeated (**Revelation 20:10**), and you have the power to defeat the enemy through your obedience to God. Trust God's process for your life, and you will not fail (**Joshua 23:14**).

Next month, we will learn to defeat Satan with worship, and this will be your last Overt Operation mission.

Blessings,

Evangelist Diana Black-Tucker Founder and President Vineyard Bible Ministry

Podcast: https://podcasters.spotify.com/pod/show/diana-tuckervbm

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Dr. Preston Butler, Jr.

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Focus on the Marriage & Family - Open Mouth Wisely (Part 3)

In the last sentence of the previous article, I stated, "If you want to have a wonderful marriage and see your relationships flourish and make the impact God intended, I encourage you to look in the mirror and honestly assess: 1) your relationship with God, and 2) whether you are bearing the fruit of the Spirit." The purpose of this statement is to emphasize the importance of God and the Word of God as the nucleus of the family. The world's view of the family is becoming more and more anti-Bible, and not reflective of God's intentions. The only way to have a healthy marriage and family atmosphere is through Biblical principles and directives. When the Word of God says, "thou shalt not," then don't. When the Word of God says, "thy shalt," then do it. Yelp...it's that simple.

When I counsel couples, one of the top three issues they admit is communication...lack of communication, poor communication, or miscommunication. Robert Fulghum said, "Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words can break my heart." Make no mistake about it, "words" matter. The way we communicate is inherited, learned through observation, and/or a symptom of a greater issue such as past or current hurts, unresolved issues, anger, grief, distrust, jealously, or disappointments.

Most of us are byproducts of our environment. What we hear (as well as what we see) has an impact on us and influences the way we talk to others. If your parents frequently argued, there is a high probability that you will have this same tendency. If you grew up in an unhealthy environment, it is critical to pursue peace to create a happy, congenial environment in your home. Pursuing peace is a Christian obligation. Psalms 34:14 states, "Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it." Hebrews 12:14 states, "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord." Peace evaporates when our tongue and tone are out of order. So, remember the lyrics to the song we learned as children; "Be careful little tongue what you say. For the Father up above is looking down on us. Be careful little tongue what you say."

Knowing how to communicate effectively is crucial in a marriage relationship. Being a preacher's/pastor's kid (PK) and being an ordained Elder since 1999, has given me some perspectives on the art of communication within the church. I am always disappointed when Christian leaders work at perfecting their communication skills with anyone who is "NOT" a family member. We can preach heaven down with prolific words that captivate, motivate, and stimulate the congregation, but put forth very little to no effort with our spouses and children. This is so wrong and egregious because charity begins at home. 1 Timothy 5:8 says, "But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel." If you can get it right at home, you can get it right anywhere. For no amount of success at work is worth failure at home.

In the book, *Positive Words, Power Results*, by Hal Urban, he states, "...learn to control your tongue, especially when you are in an emotionally charged situation." This is a great statement. However, **James 3:8** states, "**But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.**" Wowwww! What Hal Urban is saying is literally think before you speak. This will give you an opportunity to consider what you are about to say and the impact it may have on the receiver. James, on the other hand, is teaching us that the way we gain "control" of our tongues is through God. We do not have the power to tame our tongue without the intervention of the Lord Jesus. God can tame everything He made, to include our tongues.

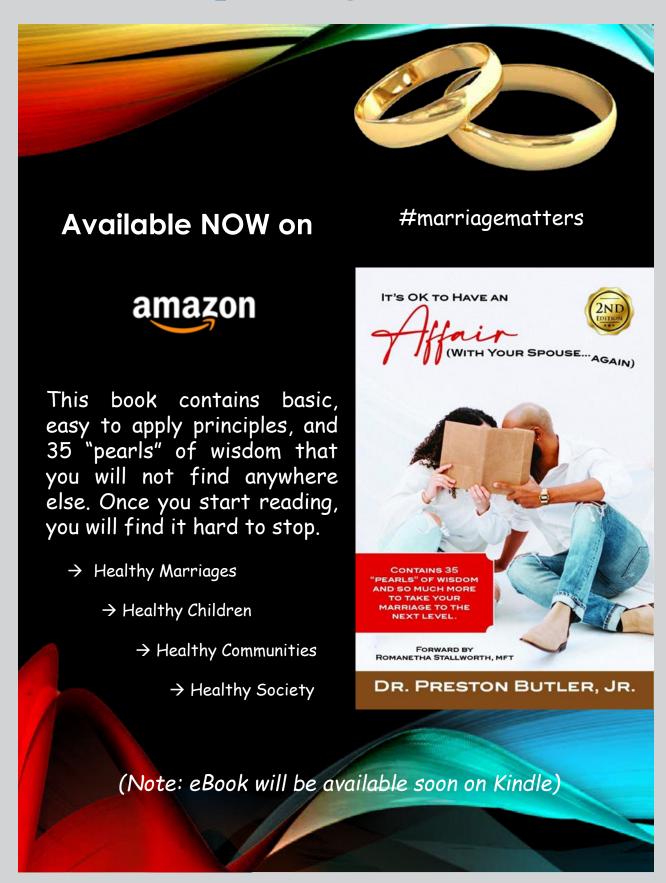
One thing I often recommend to those in leadership and relationships is to embrace the concept of Emotional Intelligence. Emotional Intelligence (referred to as EQ or EI) encompasses 5 skills: 1) Knowing your emotions, 2) Managing your emotions, 3) Motivating yourself, 4) Recognizing emotions of others, and 5) Handling relationships. I will close with one of the Pearls from my book: It is better to have big EARS than a big MOUTH. ("Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, and slow to wrath." James 1:19)

Dr. Preston Butler, Jr. CEO, PK3 Enterprise



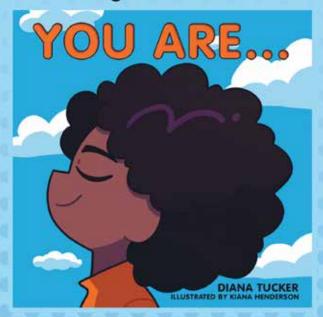
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- To encourage and strengthen our readers through the publication of biblical exhortations, dynamic testimonies of God's miraculous power, and the sharing of resources to edify the body of Christ.
- To provide a venue for ministries to share what they are doing to enhance the Kingdom of God.
- To make these resources available electronically to God's people globally.

Parting Words from The Publisher

"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end." (Jeremiah 29:11).

What a loving and caring God! Yes, He has plans for us; plans to prosper and not to harm us, just as He declared to His chosen people. He gave His only son Jesus Christ to give us a future, not only in this life but life eternal. Therefore, arise, shine, and give God the glory for all that He has done in your life, knowing that there are brighter days ahead!

I look forward to each and every edition of our newsletter. I anticipate the words of wisdom and encouragement that our faithful writers will impart into our spirit. For instance, Evangelist Tucker-Black prepares us to defeat Satan with our obedience to the Word of God. We must stand firmly on God's Word, no matter how tough things get! Jesus is our perfect example. During His period of testing, He withstood the enemy with the Word. Now we must do likewise. Dr. Butler continues to build on the Marriage and Family foundation, using the building blocks of communication. Truth be told, effective communication is vital to a healthy marriage relationship. Exhale and choose your words carefully and allow the Holy Spirit to take control. Great articles and worthy of sharing! Don't delay: Someone needs to know!

Please keep in mind that we are striving to make a difference in the lives of others. Again, we can only do so much without your help. We don't have any gimmicks or anything to offer you in exchange for your support, other than the love of God and our sincere gratitude. Please take the time to make a monetary contribution to our mission work. Visit our website at: www.voices-of-victory.com. There you will find a PayPal link to make a contribution. You can also use our Cash App: \$vovictory. Make this your season to seed into this ministry. Thank you so very much!

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