

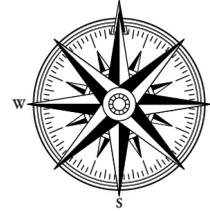
Life Group Discussion & Questions

BREAKING THE ICE: Share something you want to be ready for this year that you may not have been as ready for in the past.

DIGGING IN: Life has both blessings and battles, even with Jesus. Yet we can be ready for both. Today is about knowing who you are in Christ — believing that right now, you are more than a conqueror, through Christ Jesus. Read over the list of “Some of your titles in Christ” (on the front page of these notes). Then read Romans 8:31-37. Why do you think Paul uses such a strong metaphor as “conqueror” in this passage?

1. One of the great military conquerors in the Bible was David. His life is a mixture of battles and blessings. In Psalm 23, he also uses a metaphor — a dark valley — to represent going through a difficult time. What are some common “valleys” people go through today? Is there a particular “valley” you are going through now?
2. The psalmist David (in Ps 23) is letting us in on his mental conversation — it is the conversation of a conqueror, who is in the middle of a difficult time. Review the four statements from these notes. Which one do you find particularly helpful and/or which one do you know you need to improve on in 2019? Explain.

BRINGING IT HOME: Throughout this week, verbally declare those four statements over your life. Our life in Jesus involves both who we are right now (positionally) and who we are becoming (practically). Our mouth plays a key role in moving real theology into our daily lives. Our behavior doesn’t create our identity — our identity enables our behavior. In 2019, get that from your mouth into your spirit.



GET READY

Know Who You Are In Christ

Pastor Doug Heisel – January 27, 2019

SOME OF YOUR TITLES IN CHRIST

A CHILD OF GOD - CHOSEN AND ADOPTED

John 1:12 · Ephesians 1:4-5

A FRIEND OF JESUS

John 15:15

A NEW CREATION

2 Corinthians 5:17

GOD’S MASTERPIECE, CREATED WITH GODLY SIGNIFICANCE

Ephesians 2:10

AN HEIR OF GOD AND COHEIRS WITH CHRIST

Romans 8:17

THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD IN CHRIST JESUS

2 Corinthians 5:21

A CITIZEN OF HEAVEN AND AMBASSADOR TO THIS WORLD

Philippians 3:20 · 2 Corinthians 5:20

Romans 8:31-37 — What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave Him up for us all—how will He not also, along with Him, graciously give us all things? Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ... No, in all these things we are **more than conquerors** through Him who loved us.

The mental conversations of a conqueror in Christ:

Psalm 23:4, 6 — Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. ...Surely your goodness and mercy will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

1. I remember that I am fighting _____ victory,
not _____ victory.

“I walk through the valley ...

*This difficulty may temporarily confine me,
but it will not permanently define me.*

2. I replace fear with _____ ... **over and over and over.**

“I will not fear ...for you are with me”

2 Timothy 1:7 — “God did not give us a spirit that makes us afraid, but a spirit of power and love and self control.”

3. I take comfort in knowing that the Lord has _____ **already lined up for me.**

...your rod and staff comfort me”

2 Corinthians 1:20 — For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ. And so through Him the "Amen" is spoken by us to the glory of God.

4. I declare that God’s _____ and _____ **are pursuing me, defining me, and positively influencing others.**

“Surely your goodness and mercy follow me...”

Learn to use your MOUTH to reinforce your theology. Overcoming is not just about believing the right things, it is also about DECLARING the right things — so that they fully get from your head into our heart.