

# — Battle Plans —

Caleb J. Gross

## **1. Seek God with a clean heart**

- Make sure all sins are confessed
- Make things right between relationships
- Make sure you have forgiven those, who have wronged you
- Make sure everything is right between you and God

### **Examine Yourself**

- Psalms 55:18 says if you have hidden sins, God will not hear your prayers.
- It is important to examine yourself and your heart, so that nothing will hinder you in the battle.

## **2. Examination**

### **Examine Yourself [ what are your struggles ]**

- Do you do things without thinking?
- Do you put time before responding to things?
- Do you have trouble obeying or telling the truth?
- What things bother you the most?
- And so on...

**When** you examine yourself, and see and know what you struggle with, you can then make plans on fixing the problem, and winning the war.

- **Write** down the top things you struggle with the most, or in other words your top sins.

### 3. Make Plans

**After** writing down your top sins you struggle with, you need to make plans. The best way to win a battle, is by making and having a plan. Plans are helpful, and help keep things organized.

[ **Title** ] 1. **Write** the name of the sin at the top of a paper, as the title.

[ **Paragraph** ] 2. **Write** about sin, why is it a sin? Why should you not do this sin?

**After** that, write about why you struggle with it, and/or why does it bother you.

**Finally**, write why you want to get over this sin.

[ **Paragraph** ] 3. **Think** about what you wrote in the last paragraph, and write down Ways to fight against it, in other words, write your plan to win the battle over this sin

[ **Verses** ] 4. **At** the bottom of the page write down three bible verses, and their references.

5. **Pick** one verse to work on memorizing for that day, and memorize it, and when you are being tempted to do this sin, quote the verse, and pray for wisdom and courage. After praying think about what you should do, and do it, even if you don't feel like doing it, or even if it's hard, just do the right thing. Doing the right thing will make everyone, including you, happy.

**When** the temptation pops up, do according to your plan, a plan is only good, if you use it and follow through with it.

## 4. Prepare for battle

**To** fight a battle, you are going to need armor, and weapons.

**The** bible says in Ephesians 6:10-20, that we need to put on the whole armor of God, so that we may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. (v 10)

**Verse** 12 says, "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places."

**Here**, Paul is saying that we are not fighting against flesh and blood, meaning we are not fighting against things of this earth, but against spiritual things.

**Paul's** solution, is to put on the whole armor of God, so that we will be ready to fight against the evil one, when he comes.

### 1. Put On the Belt of Truth

**The** belt of truth is our identity, or who we are through Christ

### 2. Put on the Breastplate of Righteousness

**Putting** on the Breastplate of righteousness, is Christ giving us righteousness, or declaring us righteous.

**We** need Christ's righteousness to protect our heart from the evil one.

**Satan** tempts us with many types of sins, but we need to protect our heart with righteousness.

### 3. Put on the Shoes of Gospel Peace

**God** wants us to stay firm on his word, and have his peace.

### 4. Put on the Shield of Faith

**The** shield of faith, protects us from Satan's fiery darts. We need to constantly dip our shield in the word of God, so that it will extinguish Satan's fiery darts.

**We** need to remain confident in God's word, and faith in God. The more faith we put in Christ, the harder it is for Satan's darts to injure us.

## **5. Helmet of Salvation**

**We** receive the helmet of salvation right after we trust in Christ as our savior.

**The** helmet rests on Christ for what he did to save us.

**The** helmet of salvation, protects our mind from bad thoughts Satan puts into our minds.

**Our** mind is where most of the spiritual battles are fought.

## **6. The Sword of the Spirit**

**When** we are being tempted, the most effective weapon is the word of God.

**We** need to fight our enemy and our temptations with the word of God.

**When** Jesus was tempted three times by Satan, he used the word of God to fight against him.

## **5. Go and fight**

**Now** that you have a plan, and have the armor of God on, it is time to fight the

enemy.

**Use** Gods word and have faith in him.

-- **Now** it is time to go fight the good fight.

## **My Profile**

### **Top sins:**

- Speaking with Love
- Guarding my mind and heart
- Guarding my eyes

## **Speaking With Love**

Not speaking with love is a sin, because God said in Ephesians 5:2, to walk in love, as Christ. So if God said to walk in love, and I am not, I am sinning. I should not do this sin, because where there is no love, there is hatred and strife and no peace. I struggle with this sin, because I get angry at my siblings, and when I am angry it is hard to speak calmly and lovingly. I want to get over this sin, because I don't want to be known as someone who gets angry and does not talk lovingly.

My plan, is to first pray to God asking for wisdom and guidance at the beginning of the day and throughout the day, then when the temptation to say something out of anger, I will stop and pray to ask for the right words to say, and say them. I will speak with love and grace, and do it calmly without anger. I need to be led by the Lord, and pray throughout the day. I will protect my mind from thoughts from the evil one.

### **Verses:**

Ephesians 4:15

Ephesians 4:29

John 13:34

Hebrews 10:24