

Oaks-West church of Christ

Sunday Worship Service: 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. • Bible Study: 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.

Services are live-streamed to our website: oakswestchurchofchrist.com

DECEMBER 1, 2024

The Battle for Our Minds

by Rickie Jenkins

We are engaged in a battle — not for our bodies, but for our minds (2 Cor. 10:3-4). It is simplistic to say that the only kind of battle going on today is the war against terrorism. That is what the adversary of our soul wants us to think. He would love to get us so preoccupied with the physical and have us miss the ongoing spiritual conflict that rages every day of our lives.

Believe it or not, Christians are on the front lines of an invisible war. It may be that we are occasionally taken hostage and, like Samson, don't even know it. We may be wounded, but nobody notices because we don't bleed. The most spiritually blood-thirsty being we wrestle against is the Devil. He wages an invisible war against every person who has been redeemed by the blood of Christ.

The battle is for our minds. By "mind," do not think of just the brain, but the inner man with emotions, will, and intellect. The way we think and the way we react in life. It is in these vulnerable areas that Satan works. He battles through people and with the absence of people. He battles in events, depression, in success and failure. He battles in money and poverty. He's constantly at work, bent on our destruction.

Why does he despise Christians? He is consumed by his hatred of the mission of Christ. He knows he can't overthrow Christ. He knows he's doomed, but he'll hang on and get every person he can. He knows Christ has already won, but he won't give up without a fight.

So, how do we engage him? What are we to do?

1. Be familiar with God's Word (Mat 4:4). "It is written"

Welcome!

When you visit our assemblies, you will be received friendly, kindly and courteously. We believe this to be the natural attitude of those who truly love God and mankind. Though you may at first be among strangers, we hope that you will come to know us well and count us as your friends. We offer Bible studies as well as correspondence courses for those interested in learning more about what God expects of us.

Important Dates

Ladies' Class - December 10

If you know of upcoming events, please inform Darrell so they can be included here.

was Jesus' first line of defense.

2. Personalize God's Word. Read God's Word with personal pronouns: I, me, my, mine. Reread 2 Corinthians 10:3-5 with these personal pronouns. It is powerful.

3. Spend time discovering God's Word. Dig through and analyze what God is saying to us through His Word. Invest yourself in making God's Word your own.

4. Build your faith on God's Word. A victorious faith grows out of God's Word that reveals that Jesus is victorious over Satan. He died to give you an abundant life, not a mediocre one.

5. Receive God's forgiveness that He promised. To be victorious, keep short accounts with God. Do not allow sin to go unrepented of or un-confessed (1 John 1:9).

Then get on with living victoriously. Win the spiritual battle.

Prayer Requests

Jack Wilson is still struggling with pain and limited mobility.

Jay Parker's father has cancer. His mother has had some recent health problems as well.

Jimmy Stinnett is struggling from his leukemia and is under treatment.

Dinah Williams is having some issues with her legs from diabetes.

Jean Smith was moved to the Bertram Nursing Center, room 31.

Marcia Neuhaus

Shut-ins: Don and Alene Simmons, Jean Smith, Dinah Williams

If you know of someone that needs to be on this list, please tell Darrell (email preferred) and provide updates so names stay on the list as long as needed.

"praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints," (Ephesians 6:18)

The Oaks West church of Christ is a group of individual Christians who have been added to the Lord's body through baptism (Acts 2:38, 47; Gal 3:26, 27), and have joined themselves together (Acts 2:42ff) in an effort to do the Lord's will.

We are not a part of any larger organization - we do not follow any man-made creeds and we do not answer to anyone other than the Lord.

Our standard of faith and practice is the Word of God. We believe in the God of revelation (Eph 3:1-7; 2 Tim 3:16-17) and follow his instructions in an effort to have an ongoing relationship with him (1 John 4:7-11; 5:3).

Our times of study and worship are open to all, and our members are happy to meet with interested individuals or families for study.

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