

House On The Rock Life Group Study outline 2021

November: Spiritual warfare

Week 3 – Winning the war

Introduction

“War ends at the moment when peace permanently wins out. Not when the articles of surrender are signed or the last shot is fired, but when the last shout of a sidewalk battle fades, when the next generation starts to wonder whether the whole thing ever really happened.” – Lee Sandlin

Every skilled military strategist understands the difference between a battle and *the* war. Battles focus on the immediate, smaller encounters that can temporarily influence the overall direction of the war. The best strategists get the enemy to lose sight of the war and focus on small, ultimately meaningless battles; burning up their resources and energy on something that will do little to advance their cause. Such strategists may cede certain battlegrounds in order to focus their resources on a bigger prize. In spiritual warfare, we need to understand these same principles. While winning our daily battles, we must not lose sight of the bigger prize that is the war. We must recognise that the enemy will often seek to distract our focus and resources with things that ultimately do not matter, so as to ensure we do not have the time to win the war. We realise that our war is not against human beings (flesh and blood). But who or what is it against, and most importantly, how do we win?

Pilot text

[Eph 6:12](#) For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

- Reflections on the introduction
- What is the objective of the “war”?
 - [Matt 24:14a, Rev 11:15b](#)
- Who are we ultimately warring against?
- Take home actions
 - Take the list you have developed through this series and do spiritual battle with the knowledge and insights you have gained from these bible studies. Get in touch with your Life Group leader if you would like someone to join or support you in prayer.