

Trained for Spiritual Warfare

Psalm 18

January 21, 2024

Sermon Sketch: Jesus trains and empowers us for spiritual warfare. We must be about His business of pushing back the darkness...

- 1) How has the healing work of Jesus impacted your life this past week? (He Heals the Brokenhearted, Psalm 147, 1/14/24)
- 2) Have you, or anyone you were close to, served in the military in the past? If so, what was that experience like?
- 3) When you think about “Boot Camp” what images come to your mind? How do you think you would fare facing the rigors of 8-10 weeks of intensive training?
- 4) Scripture says a lot about being strengthened by the LORD (Psalm 18:1, 29, 32, 34; Psalm 68:35, Isaiah 40:29, Romans 16:25, Ephesians 3:16, Ephesians 6:10, Philippians 4:13, Colossians 1:11). How has God recently strengthened you? Having been strengthened, how might God use you to strengthen others?
- 5) In addition to the passages mentioned for studying the issue of spiritual warfare (2 Chronicles 20, Mark 9:28-29, 2 Corinthians 10:3-5, Ephesians 6:10-18, Revelation 12:10-12), where else in the Scriptures would you turn for instruction?
- 6) Who serves in your life as a “Drill Instructor”? In whose life could you be a “Drill Instructor” to them?

How is Jesus functioning as your main “Drill Instructor”?

- 7) What might you do to train harder than you presently are?
- 8) Are you willing to go where the Commander in Chief sends you? Are you willing to do the job He tells you to do? Are you willing to face the consequences of being AWOL (Absent Without Leave)?
- 9) What happens here in Hoosick Falls if we are lax in our attention to the “Standing Orders” we have been given?
- 10) If we don’t fight (1 Timothy 6:11-12, 2 Timothy 4:7), then who will?
- 11) How are our individual efforts compounded when we work in unison as a team?

He trains my
hands for war,
so that my
arms can bend a
bow of bronze.

Psalm 18:34