

**June 22<sup>nd</sup> -28<sup>th</sup>**

### **This is War pt 3: The Spiritual Battle**

**Intro:** Eph 6:12- We are not fighting against flesh and blood, but we are in a war against unseen spirits of the kingdom of darkness. We are admonished by the apostle Paul to put on the whole armor of God in order to resist the enemy and keep on standing in this fight of faith. There are no bystanders in this spiritual battle. Every piece of your armor will be needed to fight this fight successfully. There are three main battlegrounds that the enemy will wage war against your soul; the mind, the heart, and the mouth.

#### **I. Battleground of the Mind**

- A. There are three main types of thoughts that will come to you; thoughts that originate within ourselves, thoughts that are lies from the enemy, and thoughts that originate from God. It is very important to stay on guard from thoughts that do not agree with the Word of God. 2 Cor 10:5- we are to cast out of our minds those thoughts that are contrary to God's word. Philippians tells us to think on things that are praiseworthy and pure.

#### **II. Battleground of the Heart**

- A. Prov 4:23- Guard your heart above all else for it determines the course (or boundaries) of your life. Your heart is the inner seat of motivation within you. Be vigilante about what you put in front of your eyes, and what you allow your ears to listen to. These are the two main gateways that allow information to sink into your heart. Col 3:2- set your affections (or desires) on things above, not on earthly things.

#### **III. Battleground of the Mouth**

- A. James chapter three instructs us to take control of our tongues. Words are like seeds which contain great power. They can bring about life or cause great destruction. Proverbs also declares that wise words will satisfy you like a good meal, and the right words will bring satisfaction. You cannot live a positive life while continually speaking negative words. Choose wisely the words you speak, for you will have what you say.

#### **Discussion Questions**

1. What thoughts have come to your mind that you know are from the enemy?
2. Do you cast out thoughts from your mind that don't agree with God's Word?
3. Are your words building people up, or tearing them down?