

30 October 2016

1. . . . . **Battlefield. 14:1-7**

My battle is with my . . . . .

The battle is for my . . . . .

Dear friends, you are here as foreigners and temporary residents. Therefore, I urge you to choose against sinful desires, which wage war against your soul. 1 Peter 2:11

My battle is . . . . .

We are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against the cosmic powers over this world's darkness, and against the spiritual forces of evil in high realms. Ephesians 6:12

2. **Battle lines . . . . . 14:8-12**

Look beyond . . . . .

Look beyond . . . . .

3. **Battles get . . . . . 14:13-16**

Have . . . . . friends

Be ready to . . . . . if you have to

Be . . . . . and . . . . .

Be . . . . . victorious

4. **Battles, . . . . . the Battles. 14:17-24**

Two . . . . . kings

Take . . . . . from the world

Be . . . . .

My prayer focus for this week

For personal reflection or group discussion

1. "Be kind, for everyone you meet is fighting a hard battle." Think of a battle you had to fight. Would you have welcomed kindness, or would you have preferred something else?
2. 1 Peter 2:11 says, "Choose against sinful desires that wage war against your soul." (a) Why can believers be confident that this war is not against our spirit? (b) Why is a war against our soul so difficult to fight and to win? (c) How do we "choose...".?
3. Read Ephesians 6:12. (a) Why is it helpful to distinguish between "flesh and blood" and "cosmic"? (b) Is it possible to fight one without fighting the other? If so, how?
4. How can we balance Jesus' encouragement to have worldly friends (Luke 16:9), with His warning against being part of the world (John 15:19)?
5. Abram had trained men (Genesis 14:14). (a) How can we train ourselves spiritually. (b) How can I tell if I am trained?
6. After the battle, Abram was welcomed back by 2 kings (Gen.14: 17-18). (a) Which one was most welcome, and why? (b) What are some practical steps whereby we welcome those who are fighting hard battles?