



Sunday March 21, 2021
Overcoming Part 8: Live The Overcoming Life

REVIEW

This is the concluding sermon in this series on 'Overcoming', where our goal was to help every believer learn how to live victorious over the flesh, the world and the devil.

Today, our goal is to simply review and then motivate us to pursue living the overcoming life.

Here is a quick review of what we have covered in this sermon series, in the 7 messages prior to today's message:

In this series we are learning how to live victoriously over the flesh, the world, the devil.

We have established the fact that all believers can live overcoming and victorious lives over the flesh, the world, and the devil. We have understood that **the Cross** of Jesus and **our identity** in Christ are the basis for us to live overcoming victorious lives. We also discovered that living by **the Word of God** and **walking in the Spirit** are practical keys to living the overcoming life.

We discussed how to walk in **victory over the flesh**:

How do we overcome the flesh?

- 1, Know you are free from the power of sin
- 2, Use the Word in relation to your area of weakness
- 3, Walk in the Spirit and crucify the flesh
- 4, Put on Jesus and make no provision for the flesh
- 5, Get another believer to walk with you

Following that, we discussed how to live in **victory over the world**. In the world we face:

- A, Worldly influences and attractions.
- B, Cares and pressures.
- C, Troubles and persecutions (hardships, trials or tribulations).

We discovered four Biblical instructions to live **victoriously over the world**:

- 1, Set your desires on things above
- 2, Be sanctified by the Word and the Spirit
- 3, Live by faith in God and with a renewed mind
- 4, Be spiritually minded and earthly wise

Last Sunday we discussed on: Overcoming the devil.



We discussed four Biblical instructions to apply to walk in **victory over the devil**:

- #1, Know that satan has been defeated
- #2, Be aware of the enemy's tactics
- #3, Be vigilant and give the enemy no opportunity
- #4, Use your spiritual weapons

TODAY

Living the overcoming, victorious Christian life is not easy. We must make a determined effort to walk in what God has provided for us.

On the one hand Jesus stated that the Kingdom of heaven is near, it is within reach and accessible. He stated that it is the Father's good pleasure to give us the Kingdom. He stated that we must be like little children to enter the Kingdom of God.

Yet, on the other hand He said we need to be like valiant, tenacious warriors to experience the Kingdom. Jesus stated:

Matthew 11:12

And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force.

There must be a sense of aggressive pursuit, a striving, a pressing in, to take what God has made available to us in His Kingdom. Passionate one, zealous ones, people of violence, people of force, spiritually speaking, are the ones who are able to enjoy the things of the Kingdom.

Of course, it is not God who is keeping us out of the Kingdom. Our violence is against the flesh, the world and the devil – the three 'enemies' that we have to push past, overcome, in order to take the things of the Kingdom.

Now if we don't make this spiritual effort to 'take it by force', then we risk living defeated lives as believers. We live life missing out on the provisions God has made for each of us.

So why should we as believers live an overcoming life?

We will consider three Biblical reasons:

- #1, To delight the Father's heart
- #2, To reveal Jesus to the world
- #3, To be fruitful for the Kingdom of God



#1, TO DELIGHT THE FATHER'S HEART

2 Corinthians 5:9-10

9 Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him.

10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

Our aim...to be well pleasing to Him.

Whether we live or die....we want to be pleasing to Him.

And we live with cognizance of the fact that one day we will stand before the judgment seat of Christ in heaven and will give an account of how we lived and what we did.

Now think about this. What would please the Father's heart? If we were grateful for all He did for us in sending Jesus Christ to redeem us, and did our best to live in the provisions He made for us? Or, if we only knew what Jesus did for us, but made no effort to receive and live in what He died to provide? The answer is obvious. We delight God's heart if we are grateful for the provisions He made, and we strived to live in all He has given to us freely by His grace.

[Could use an analogy of a father and his children here]

#2, TO REVEAL JESUS TO THE WORLD

2 Corinthians 2:14

Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place.

The apostle Paul had stated in a few verses earlier that we are not ignorant of satan's devices (2 Corinthians 2:11). And in the light of the fact that we are in spiritual warfare, even as we deal with the matters of this life, Paul states that God always causes us to triumph in Christ. And along with that – that is through this life of triumph – God also “spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of God everywhere we go” (TPT).

So living a triumphant, victorious, overcoming life is part of the positioning of the believer through which God diffuses the sweet aroma of the knowledge of God everywhere we go.



[Emphasize here giving different reasons, why the world needs to see a victorious believer...]

People need to see the difference faith in God makes in everyday life situations.

#3, TO BE FRUITFUL FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD

In 2 Peter 1:3-9 the apostle Peter states that God has given to us everything that is required for a life of godliness. He states that through the great and precious promises God has given to us, we are partakers of God's own nature and have escaped the moral decay that is in the world. This is the overcoming, victorious life of the believer.

Peter then encourages us as believers to add seven essential ingredients to our faith: virtue, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness, love.

We will read the two verses that follow:

2 Peter 1:8-9

8 For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

9 For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins.

Notice how all this ties in to being fruitful in our Christian walk.

As we live according to the divine nature, living by the great and precious promises, living a life victorious over the moral decay in this world, adding and growing in our faith – we will lead a fruitful Christian life. We will be able to grow into the purposes of God for our lives and bear fruit for His Kingdom.

[Can share here a little on what a fruitful life for God's Kingdom would look like]

Now, if we don't take this route, Peter states that the believer is blinded and has 'forgotten' what God has done for them.

SUMMARY

So why should we as believers live an overcoming life?

We stated three Biblical reasons:

#1, To delight the Father's heart

#2, To reveal Jesus to the world

#3, To be fruitful for the Kingdom of God



So, as we conclude this sermon series, we encourage all of us as believers to make the journey into living victorious, overcoming lives. We can overcome the flesh, the world and the devil.

SALVATION CALL

The GOSPEL (Good News) in brief.

Here is how we RECEIVE the Good News for our personal lives.

We make it a simple A,B,C,D. We must:

ACKNOWLEDGE: our sin, the consequences of our sin, and our need for a Savior

BELIEVE: in Jesus Christ, in who He is and what He has done on the Cross, personally

CONFESS: Jesus Christ as the Lord and Savior of our lives

DECIDE: to follow Jesus Christ as His disciple for the rest of our lives

MINISTRY TIME

Call team up:

First and Third (and fifth) Sundays: Nancy Ramya, Selina Macwana, Roshan Jonas

Second and Fourth Sundays: Jeyakumar Isaiah, Jacob Mathew, Jean George



LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE

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The following is a simple guide for use in Life Group discussions. Our objective is to focus on the application of the Sunday sermon - how each one is becoming a doer of the Word and building their life on God's Holy Word. The Life Group meeting would normally last for 2 hours. Each Life Group would have up to 12-15 people.

Preparation

To prepare for the Life Group meeting, you can listen to the Sermon Key Points (sermon summary in five minutes) or the full-length Sunday sermon. You can also review the Sunday Sermon notes. All these are available in the "All Peoples Church Bangalore" mobile App or online at apcwo.org/sermons . Pray for the Life Group meeting and invite the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit.

Welcome

The Life Group meeting may commence with a time of prayer, worship, and a fun activity.

LISTEN to God's Word

Read the following Scripture passages: *Matthew 11:12, 2 Corinthians 5:9-10, 2 Corinthians 2:14, 2 Peter 1:8-9*

INVESTIGATE God's Word Together

Please discuss a few of these together, giving time for people to share their insights. We encourage each one individually to make notes of their personal learning during the Group discussion.

1) *Discuss why we need to be violent and what it means to be violent to take the things of the Kingdom by force, as stated by Jesus in Matthew 11:12?*

2) *Discuss each of the 3 motivators for all of us to press in to live a life of victory over the flesh, the world and the devil. Use the Scriptures given.*

#1, To delight the Father's heart (2 Corinthians 5:9-10)

#2, To reveal Jesus to the world (2 Corinthians 2:14)

#3, To be fruitful for the Kingdom of God (2 Peter 1:8-9)



If time permits, each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share one or two key learning and how they see themselves applying it into their specific life situations. Encourage each one to participate and share.

FELLOWSHIP by sharing your life and spiritual journey.

Each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share anything from their walk with God, something God has been teaching them, a testimony of answered prayer or a specific challenge that they would like prayer for. Encourage each one to participate and share.

ENCOURAGE each other by praying and ministering to one another.

Get into small groups of two or three and take turns to thank God and pray for each other in the light of what was learnt today. Listen to the Holy Spirit. Expect the gifts of the Holy Spirit to flow bringing healing, releasing miracles, prophecy, etc.

Regroup and pray together for:

1, families to be protected and strengthened.

2, a mighty outpouring of God's Holy Spirit on us as a church and through us to bless many others in our city and nation. Nothing but a mighty work of God's Spirit can change our city and nation.

3, for the BUILD TO IMPACT project - for God's hand to guide us through the land search and acquisition process, and for finances to be more than enough to get this project done.

Close by thanking God together.



USEFUL RESOURCES



Watch our online Sunday Church service live stream every Sunday at 10:30am (Indian Time, GMT+5:30). Spirit filled, anointed worship, Word and ministry for healing, miracles, and deliverance.

YOUTUBE: <https://youtube.com/allpeopleschurchbangalore>

WEBSITE: <https://apcwo.org/live>

Our other websites and free resources:

CHURCH: <https://apcwo.org>

FREE SERMONS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/sermons>

FREE BOOKS: <https://apcwo.org/books/english>

DAILY DEVOTIONALS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/daily-devotional>

JESUS CHRIST: <https://examiningjesus.com>

BIBLE COLLEGE: <https://apcbiblecollege.org>

E-LEARNING: <https://apcbiblecollege.org/elearn>

WEEKEND SCHOOLS: <https://apcwo.org/ministries/weekend-schools>

COUNSELING: <https://chrysalislife.org>

MUSIC: <https://apcmusic.org>

MINISTERS FELLOWSHIP: <https://pamfi.org>

CHURCH APP: <https://apcwo.org/app>

CHURCHES: <https://apcwo.org/ministries/churches>

WORLD MISSIONS: <https://apcworldmissions.org>