What's it all about?

Kevin gives us a balanced biblical foundation for spiritual warfare. He explains worldviews, authority, Jesus’ example, and offers practical suggestions.

This is a key chapter for improving our effectiveness in two thirds of Jesus’ Kingdom Commission in Luke 9 to heal the sick, kick demons, and preach the Kingdom of God.

Let's not settle for business as usual. Let’s arm ourselves and confront evil in its many forms to capture prisoners from satan, free saints from strongholds, and win the world for Jesus.

The Kennellys serve as founding Corps Officers of the cell-based East Wind Corps in London, Canada. Coming out of careers in the military, Cathi and Kevin live out a unique kind of primitive salvationism, combining power evangelism, the ward system, and strategic spiritual warfare on their growing front. They have served the wider Kingdom of God in Canada in various capacities, including Prayer For Your City, Lighthouses Of Prayer, ALPHA regional programming, and national prayer coordination. Cathi contributes our chapter on WARDS, the SA prequel to cells Kevin contributes our chapter on SPIRITUAL WARFARE.

RESOURCE:

BOOKS:

day 1: George Scott Railton. HEATHEN ENGLAND.
George Otis Jr. THE TWILIGHT LABYRINTH. (advanced)

Chick Yuill. THIS MEANS WAR.
Gary Grieg. et al. THE KINGDOM AND THE POWER.

day 2: Ed Silvoso. THAT NONE SHALL PERISH.
Gary Grieg. et al. THE KINGDOM AND THE POWER.

Wesley Duewel. ABLAZE FOR GOD.
Bob Beckett, Wagner-Systema. COMMITMENT TO CONQUER.

day 3: Watchman Nee. SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY.

day 4: John McArthur Jr. HOW TO MEET THE ENEMY.
Peter Wagner. WRESTLING WITH DARK ANGELS.
Evelyn Christenson. BATTLING THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS.

day 5: Carlos Annacondia. LISTEN TO ME SATAN.
Derek Prince. THEY SHALL EXPEL DEMONS.
Doris Wagner. HOW TO CAST OUT DEMONS.

day 6: F.F.Bosworth. CHRIST THE HEALER.
Frank and Ida Mae Hammond. PIGS IN THE PARLOUR. (Kevin’s must read)
Peter Horrobin. HEALING THROUGH DELIVERANCE (parts 1 and 2).

Peter Wagner. HOW TO HAVE A HEALING MINISTRY IN ANY CHURCH

Frank and Ida Mae Hammond. PIGS IN THE PARLOUR. (Kevin’s must read)
Peter Horrobin. HEALING THROUGH DELIVERANCE (parts 1 and 2).

Peter Wagner. HOW TO HAVE A HEALING MINISTRY IN ANY CHURCH

MOVIES:

BLESS THIS CHILD (illustrates war between Christianity and new age)
THE EXORCIST (not exactly on- lacks the killer punch of God)
SAVING PRIVATE RYAN (first 1/2 hour depicts spiritual warfare).

ONLINE:
It is surprising how many people, Christians included, believe in God but do not believe in satan. Despite the proliferation of the demonic in contemporary media, when it comes down to how most people conduct their lives in North America, non-Christians live as if there is neither a God and nor a devil and even Christians often live as if there is no devil. Many well meaning Christians even advise their comrades not to concern themselves with the devil, despite the fact that the scriptures are clear that the devil prowls around like a lion looking for someone to devour. Many Christians are unsure of what to believe. Jesus regularly dealt with demons. But where did they all go after He left the earth?

Much of this confusion stems from an unspoken set of presuppositions that all of us have called worldviews. Everyone has a worldview and everyone lives their life based upon their own worldview. A worldview is simply the way a person interprets or sees the world. It is the filter that we use to interpret what is going on around us and what is happening to us. Our worldview is shaped by our upbringing, life experiences, schooling, and culture. A faulty worldview will usually lead to incorrect deductions regarding life our relationship with God.

For example, let’s say my worldview consists solely of God in heaven and humans on the earth, and there is no room for a devil, demons, or unseen spiritual realm. How would I interpret losing my son to cancer at the age of three? Since there is no devil in my worldview my only conclusions could be that God sat back and let my son die (i.e. HE IS UNWILLING), that He actually could not heal my son (i.e. HE IS UNABLE) or that He in fact killed my son (i.e. HE IS EVIL). If I am a Christian with this worldview and am experiencing these circumstances, how can I continue to fully love and trust God if I’m convinced that He is unwilling, unable, or evil?

Here are four common worldviews:

- Humans live on the earth and are a product of evolution; there is no God and there is no devil.
- Humans live on the earth; there are angels and other spirit beings but there is no God.
- Humans live on the earth; there is a God; there may be good angels but there is no devil, nor demons.
- Humans live on the earth; there is a God and He lives in heaven with His angels; there is a devil and demons and they inhabit an unseen spiritual realm which is separate from heaven and but interacts with earth.
Most unbelievers and many Christians have one thing in common- A non-biblical worldview. A biblical worldview is simply the worldview that is portrayed in the Bible- the one espoused and lived by Jesus. Worldview 4 is the worldview of Jesus. It is what we call a biblical worldview. This view of the world described in the Bible consists of three separate but interrelated spiritual realms:

- There is the realm of humans on the earth, which is visible to the human eye. “The rains come down from heaven.”
- There is the realm of satan and his demonic horde. It is also the battleground of angels sent by God to assist those who are inheriting salvation. This second heaven or middle ground is an intermediate spiritual realm that exists on a plane that intersects with the visible realm on earth but which is invisible to the unaided human eye. For those of you that are having a hard time grasping this, it is kind of like Star Trek where some aliens inhabit an unseen realm on the ship or even in the bodies of some of the human crewmembers from time to time. We see examples of this in the ministry of Elisha where he asks God to open the eyes of his servant to see the angelic realm surrounding them. In this case the prophet could see the unseen spiritual realm but his assistant could not, without the help of God.
- Finally, there is the heaven which God inhabits. This third heaven is the place where Christ is enthroned. The Bible tells us that we are seated with Christ in this spiritual realm. In this spiritual realm the will of God is always done.

Getting a biblical worldview is a start, but only the start. Learning how to consistently interpret the world and conduct your life based on a biblical worldview is the real challenge. Many Christians believe in a theoretical satan, but not in operative satan, theoretical demons, but not operative demons. The devil is a liar and a deceiver. He wants you to continually forget about him or to give him too much credit. He is a master at making you blame others and God for what he is doing and vice versa. For example, what is your first response when you see conflict in the Corps or in your family? Do you take sides, judge, become critical and even fight back? What did you immediately think the last time you saw major conflict between two parties other than yourself? Those who operate from a Biblical worldview will immediately look to the spiritual realm, remembering our battle is not against flesh and blood. They will understand that there is often a demonic component to a fight and will have the confidence to pray accordingly. Instead of blaming and fighting a human they will fight the fight in the spiritual realm.

Spiritually speaking, the world hasn't changed from Biblical times. Jesus is our example and learning to operate like He operated and warring as He warred is our goal.

1. Do you believe in satan? How does what you believe compare with what the Bible teaches?
2. Do you think the spiritual realm is as real as the physical one? Explain why?
3. What difference does it make in your life that satan exists?
The reason the Son of God was manifest was to destroy the works of the devil (1 John 3:8).

"If the devil comes into this office, throw inkpots at him"
(Elijah Cadman, in Albert Orsborn, THE HOUSE OF MY PILGRIMAGE).

In Luke 4:18-19 Jesus stood up in the temple and gave his opening address to begin his ministry. He read a passage from the prophet Isaiah- “The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because He has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.” Before He sat down He proclaimed to all those present that the very words He had just read were fulfilled in their hearing. From that moment on in His life and ministry Jesus lived out these passages. He welcomed the people, taught them about the kingdom of God and then forgave sin, healed the sick, and cast out demons. He even raised the dead! He preached the good news of God's mercy and forgiveness- the possibility of a new beginning and a new life. Jesus' ministry met the deepest needs of people for freedom and gave them meaning to enjoy life. “I came that you may have life and have it abundantly” (John 10:10).

In many Canadian Salvation Army Corps the chorus 'To Be Like Jesus' is often sung: “To be like Jesus / this hope possesses me / in every thought and deed / this is my aim my creed / to be like Jesus /... / His Spirit helping me / like Him I'll be.” Often the focus of this song is limited to personal holiness, but we can see from the words that there is an additional aspect, which is to be like Jesus not only in His character but in His ministry as well. The scriptures tell us that when a disciple is fully trained he will be just like his teacher. If Jesus is our teacher and we have become fully trained, we will be doing ministry much like Jesus did. Jesus even told us this Himself when He said to His disciples, “I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in Me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these because I am going to the Father. And I will do whatever you ask in My name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. You may ask Me for anything in my name, and I will do it” (John 14:12-14).

Jesus commissioned His followers and gave them authority to go and make disciples. We need to begin to see this word ‘disciple’ as a learner who is seeking to become a ‘look alike’. When we are fully trained we will be ministering like Jesus, in the spirit that Jesus Ministered, in the way that Jesus ministered.

Spiritual Warfare is nothing more or less than living a Spirit empowered, obedient life. When we live this kind of life we will not have to go looking for demons or sick people to lay hands on. Our paths will be ordered and directed of God and we will minister as He directs us when we get there. Jesus told us the secret to His life on many occasions when He spoke words such as, “the Father who sent Me commanded Me what to say and how to say it” (John 12:49) and, "but the world must learn that I love the Father and that I do exactly what My Father has commanded Me" (John 14:31). Philippians 2 tells us that Jesus, who being in very nature God did not have to grasp at that, but instead, having taken on the nature of a servant and being found in appearance as a man, became obedient to death.
Obedience is the key to a powerful ministry that will see the captives set free and the kingdom of God established in the hearts and lives of men and women. Catherine Booth said of the early Salvationists who wielded such tremendous spiritual power, that their power came from their complete consecration. They were utterly sold out to Christ and obedient to His beckoning call. They were men and women led by and empowered by the Holy Spirit to do great works for God.

Now you may ask, ‘obedient to what?’ The answer is - to God’s word as revealed both in scripture and spoken to our hearts by the Holy Spirit. Jesus said, “My sheep listen to My voice; I know them, and they follow Me” (John 10:27). This means that Christians can and do hear the voice of Jesus communicated directly to us. Hearing Jesus and following Him is the life of obedience that results in the works of Jesus performed today.

1. How much are you like Jesus? (In attitude and in action).
2. Would you characterize the life you are living as Spirit-empowered?
3. Are you obedient to the Spirit?
4. Are you utterly or partially sold out to Jesus?
5. How can your life be more like Jesus?

Read the words of Isaiah 61—out loud!
Now declare (by presenting yourself to God as wholly His) that these words are fulfilled through you!
Accept Christ’s command to take this good news to the entire world and in so doing destroy the works of the devil!
Understanding the concept of spiritual authority and how to be a man or woman under authority is perhaps the most important lesson that Christians need to learn. It was the failure of Adam and Eve to operate properly in the authority that was given to them that has led the whole world into bondage. Jesus, through His death, burial, and resurrection has regained that authority and delegated it to the Body, and in particular, to His disciples. Jesus Himself operated as a man under authority during His earthly ministry and because of His obedience all the way to death the Father has exalted Him to the very highest place. In the paragraphs that follow we will take a whirlwind look at biblical authority. I encourage you to learn all you can on this topic, for it is one of the major keys to a powerful ministry in the Holy Spirit.

In Genesis 1:28 we read that God delegated authority to the Adam and Eve to rule over the earth. “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground.” In Genesis 2 and 3 we read that Adam was given responsibility for the care of Eden. Adam and Eve were also given instructions that required their obedience. Genesis 2:15 -17 reads: The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. And the LORD God commanded the man, “You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die.” Authority is the authorization to use power. Delegated authority is authority given from someone greater than you who has both the power and the authority to use that power. Adam and Eve were given 'rulership' over the earth and over the garden. However, there were limits to their authority.

All delegated authority is predicated upon obedience. Imagine that you are the manager of a fast food restaurant. You are not the owner but the owner has given you (delegated) the privilege of operating her store and of making decisions for her (authority) within the boundaries she has set. Perhaps you have the delegated authority to hire and fire people but you do not have the delegated authority to change the hours of operation or to set the pay scale. As long as you make decisions that the owner would make in your delegated areas, she will back you up. You are not, however, authorized to make decisions outside of the areas over which you have been given delegated authority. If you choose to make decisions in these areas, not only do you not have the authority to do them, but also the owner will not back you up and will hold you accountable for your decision. You will probably lose your job.
Satan is a usurper who understood that Adam's rulership was dependent on his obedience. He got Adam and Eve to disobey God and, in effect, obtained the obedience of Adam and Eve through deception. By Adam's one act of disobedience all men became sinners and satan effectively stole human's authority to exercise rulership over the earth. We know this to be true from Jesus' encounter with satan who offered 'all of the authority' of all of the kingdoms on the earth to Jesus in return for His worship. Satan's words were: "for it (authority) has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to" (Luke 4:5-7). We also know that the whole world is under satan's control (1 John 5:19) and that satan continues to blind men (2 Corinthians 4:4) and women to keep them from understanding and responding to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

By one man's (Jesus') obedience, a channel of restoration has been made. At the cross, Jesus, by His obedience all the way to death, paid the price for our disobedience and thereby regained the authority that had been stolen by satan. All authority in heaven and on earth have been given to Jesus, who now delegates that authority to you and me for the purpose of making disciples and expanding His kingdom on the earth. It is important to thoroughly understand this principle of delegated authority and the necessity for obedience on our part if we are to be successful in making disciples that look like and minister like Jesus.

Jesus has delegated authority to us to make disciples (Matthew 28:18) and to overcome all the power of the enemy (Luke 10:19). In the course of doing this we have the authority to heal the sick and cast out demons in Jesus' name (Matthew 10:1). Jesus commissions Peter: "And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My Church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven" (Matthew 16:18,19).

Surely one context of this is the forgiveness of sins to which Jesus referred: "If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven" (John 20:23). By this Jesus has given to the Body the authority to proclaim forgiveness of sins when we see true repentance and confession. There is nothing more powerful than for the repentant sinner to hear something like the following words from a loving brother or sister in Christ, "on the basis your confession to God which I have just witnessed and the authority of God's word as recorded in 1 John 1:9 I want to tell you that your sins are now forgiven you!"

1. Do you consider yourself a person of authority (spiritually)?
2. Would you say you operate in Christ's authority daily?
3. Do you find it easy to operate in obedience?
4. When was the last time you took authority over sickness and disease and saw someone healed?
Another context of binding and loosing has to do with the release of spiritual power. Demons may be bound and cast out in Jesus’ name. Sicknesses and diseases may be commanded to leave. When we say the words ‘in Jesus name’ at the end of our prayers they are not some magical incantation. They are an acknowledgement of our source of authority. When used properly, the phrase will serve notice to a demon telling it that it has to leave. The words themselves don’t have any power. The power comes from our understanding and belief that Jesus has given us authority to serve the eviction notice. In effect, we are ‘deputized’ representatives of Jesus and we issue the command that He would issue, on His behalf, believing it to be so. Recognizing and operating within the realm of delegated authority requires both living in intimacy with Him and obedience to Him moment by moment as we are led by His Spirit.

Jesus was a man under authority and operated during His earthly minister in complete submission and obedience to His Father in heaven. We learn from Jesus’ encounter with the centurion in Matthew 8/Luke 7 that Jesus could speak a word and the centurion’s child would be healed even without coming to his house. The centurion's conversation teaches us a lot about the nature of being a person under authority. The centurion, being a military man who was under authority himself, was authorized to tell his soldiers to do this or that knowing that they would do it without question. The centurion recognized the same characteristics about Jesus' ministry and concluded that Jesus Himself was also a man under authority (God's authority) and that Jesus could speak a word and things would happen as well. The key point here is not the ability to speak the word and have things happen but to understand that this authority comes legitimately only to a person who is herself under authority. Jesus was responsive to every command of His Father in heaven and therefore wielded spiritual authority. For you and I to operate in spiritual authority we must be men and women under authority.

That is why Jesus told us that if we speak to a mountain and tell it to go jump into the seas and do not doubt in our hearts, it will happen. In fact, this is how Jesus did His ministry. Check your Bible and look at the words and methods that Jesus used to heal people, cast out demons, and even raise the dead. Every one of these happened through the issuing of a command or speaking a word. Jesus spoke a word and it was done.

We know from a careful search of the New Testament that Jesus was not some sort of loose cannon, just healing everyone in sight and casting out demons out of entire regions with one word. NO. He was a man under authority who spent time with His Father in prayer. He was listening for and speaking the words the Father was giving Him. He was healing those the Father was healing. He was not only going to the places to which His Father wanted Him to go, He was doing what His Father wanted him to do when He got there! This is a man under authority. We are called to be the same kind of people, dying daily to our own agendas and presuppositions, listening intently to the Father and doing only what we see Him doing.
For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms (Ephesians 6:12).

"We'll tear hell's throne to pieces, and win the world for Jesus"
(William Pearson, SASB 800).

In his letter to the Ephesians, Paul tells us that our warfare is not against flesh and blood. This is something that we need to remind ourselves of again and again. The devil is masterful at getting people fighting against people. Our conflict is not with human beings but with the demonic pantheon that seeks to thwart the purposes of God on the earth. Every time we are experiencing conflict or opposition we can be sure that satan and his minions are not far off. As followers of Jesus we are satan's enemies. His fury is directed towards the Body, which he seeks to destroy and cause to be ineffective.

Fortunately, Jesus is building us up and has promised that the gates of hell will not prevail against it. By nature, we are overcomers just as Jesus was, overcoming satan by the blood of the Lamb (salvation in its total sense completely applied to every aspect of our lives), the word of our testimony (radically changed lives and up to date authentic union with living Christ demonstrated by holy, passionate, selfless sharing of the gospel and backed up and authenticated by God in signs and wonders) and by living fearlessly all the way to death.

According to Jesus, satan's objectives are to steal, kill, and destroy (John 10:10). This applies to the Christian and non-Christian alike. Satan is a fallen angel who took a third of the angelic host with him when he was cast out of heaven. He wanted the worship to which only God was entitled. He usurped Adam's dominion and has led the whole world astray in sin and rebellion. Although defeated at the cross, he maintains his kingdom, through deception, lies, fear, darkness, intimidation, ignorance, confusion, doubt, unrighteousness, accusation, destruction, false doctrines, and distractions (just to name a few). He blinds the minds of unbelievers so they cannot understand the gospel, and he seeks to keep Christians self-focused, in bondage, and at war with one another so that they cannot fulfill their mandate. Even though Jesus has stripped his authority, satan retains his power and continues to perpetrate his kingdom through lies, deception, and the sin of human beings. Contrary to popular belief, Christians are not immune to his presence and can even be demonized. Satan has been bound into eternal chains of darkness awaiting judgment on the great day. Wherever there is moral darkness satan feeds.

Paul tells us to put on the whole armour of Christ so that we may stand against his attacks. Our armour is essentially Christ incarnate in us. We are urged to put on Christ in all of His fullness. He is truth, righteousness, peace, and salvation, and He fills us with faith through His Spirit, the Word of God, enabling us to pray in all circumstances with all kinds of prayers. Our human know-how, wisdom, and strength can never equip us for the spiritual battle- we need to be equipped to stand our ground in the spiritual battle. The following are a few considerations Paul offers for each aspect of the armour:
Truth- We need truthfulness, integrity, and honesty of character. We need to be filled with truth by the word of God- not filled with opinions. Most of all we must live out that truth uncompromisingly. We must cast off all falsehood, speaking the truth in love. The enemy's power is perpetrated through lies and deception.

Righteousness- He who acts righteously is righteous. This is about appropriating the life of Christ, putting to death the sinful nature, and allowing Christ to live His righteous life through us. Our minds, wills, and emotions need to be transformed by the word and we must work out our sanctification daily, choosing to live in obedience to God's word and the leadings of His Spirit.

Gospel of Peace- We have peace with God through the cross; we are not God's enemies but His children. The living reality of our justification gives us a steadfastness in Christ and an ability to go the mile even under fierce opposition, knowing for certain that Christ is for us. We are to be ambassadors of peace, bringing the reconciliation possible in the cross of Christ to others.

Faith- Unwavering faith in God is our shield. Even though the enemy may tempt, discourage, and attack us, we have a confidence that God will deliver us from the evil one.

Salvation- This is an item we are told to take. We need to appropriate the fullness of the victory that Jesus won for us by applying the blood to all aspects of our lives- body, soul, and spirit (entire sanctification).

Word of God- A sword is to be taken and wielded. We prepare ourselves by ingesting the word, through reading, study, memorization, and meditation. We confront the enemy as Jesus did, standing firm on the basis of the knowledge that 'It is written'.

Prayer- Our direct link with God releases power into the lives of others and facilitates the successful promulgation of the gospel.

1. Have you ever found yourself battling a spiritual fight in the physical realm?
2. Why does that happen?
3. How can you recognize the enemy at work in your life?
4. What can you do about it?
5. Do you consciously use your armour daily?
We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ (2 Corinthians 10:5).

"At times as an angel of light he appears, at times lion-like he comes to our fears; By gains and by losses, be praise and by jeers, he seeks to entrap us in sin" (Richard Slater, COMBAT SONGS OF THE SALVATION ARMY).

Humans are three-part beings made up of body, soul, and spirit. Salvation addresses all three aspects of a person. I was saved through justification; I am now being saved through sanctification; I will be saved at glorification. At the moment of conversion, the Spirit of Christ entered my being, giving life to my spirit- I was born of the Spirit and I received the righteousness of Christ in my spirit. My spirit, which was previously dead because of sin, was brought to life by the indwelling presence of the Spirit of God. I received Christ Himself with all of His righteousness, love, healing, and other attributes. The penalty of my sin was dealt with. At that moment I was also positionally sanctified by His Spirit. I was set apart to and for God: spirit, soul, and body. I was marked as His very own possession with the Holy Spirit as proof of ownership. However, like most Christians I found myself doing things which I knew that I ought not to do and vice versa and I end up in a perpetual sin and confess cycle. As Paul said, I found this law at work in me that continues to keep me from doing what is right - the law of sin and death.

Fortunately there is a greater power at work in me which is able to put an end to this otherwise endless sin-confess cycle. This greater power is the Spirit of God Himself who resides in me at the spirit level. He is greater than the law of sin and death and is a law unto Himself- the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus. Now I find that if I submit to His rule in every area of my life, He is able to lead me in the path of righteousness. I find that if I allow myself to be led by the Spirit I do not gratify my sinful nature. This is sanctification at work in its simplest sense. Sanctification deals with the power of sin.

My soul (mind, will, and emotions) must go through the process of being conformed to Christlikeness and requires my cooperation, renewal of my mind by the Word, and the ongoing empowerment of the Holy Spirit. When we speak about wrestling for souls, or freedom for Christians, we are really dealing with the MIND, WILL, and EMOTIONS.

The mind is our thought factory, the emotions are our feelings, and the will is the decision making centre of the human being. For the most part, each of these three areas still follow our old nature after salvation. A person can be legitimately saved and still be in bondage to sin. This is why we need to be wholly sanctified. The mind is the first and primary battleground- as a man thinks so he is.
We exhort people to be entirely sanctified— to completely submit themselves to the Lordship of Christ in every known area of their life; to reckon themselves dead to sin and alive to Christ; to purpose that sin will not be their masters; to set themselves apart for God’s exclusive use of their body, soul, and spirit. By doing so this does not mean that the person will not have to work out her sanctification with fear and trembling. Everyone so committed will have to stay dead every day to maintain their union with Christ by a conscious choice of mind, will, and emotions. They will have to keep the touch of Jesus ‘on their soul’ through basic disciplines of prayer, Bible reading, fellowship, and witnessing.

A person can be legitimately saved and still be in bondage to sin. This is why we need to be wholly sanctified. The mind is the first and primary battleground— as a man thinks so he is. Our unrenewed mind contains strongholds. A stronghold is a mindset impregnated with hopelessness that causes us to accept as unchangeable something that is clearly contrary to will of God. Strongholds describe an inner condition where satan still has the power to control. Areas of past pain and sin are the foundations for these strongholds. Fears, phobias, pride, unforgiveness, sexual addictions, etc., are just a few of the possible strongholds a person could have. Living a defeated Christian life is not enjoyable! However, many Christians endure this existence simply because nobody helps them deal with their strongholds. The process of dealing with strongholds is rather simple, but it is foreign to many. There are many good resources that are available these days to help Christians find freedom in Christ and you are encouraged to seek these out as detailed help is beyond the scope of this chapter.

Most of the resources are nothing more than a detailed self-examination and confession. They often cover potential problem areas such as sexual sins, occult sins, unforgiveness, generational sins, pride, submission to authority, ungodly beliefs, bitter roots, judgments, etc. Don't get overwhelmed by the list and think that freedom is not possible without outside help. It is. Freedom is found in a relationship with Jesus Christ. A complete change of heart with respect to any area of bondage followed by a definite turning from the given sin to Jesus is foundational for freedom. Many make the mistake of wanting to keep a bit of their sin. Others fail because they want to turn from sin to self-meaning they want to be free but don't want to submit to Jesus. Make no mistake- Salvation is found in no other name but Christ. We cannot expect to be free without a complete ongoing reliance on Jesus Christ. Similarly we cannot expect to be free from demonic influence and the sin that so easily entangles while we retain areas of moral darkness within our hearts. Satan and his demonic host have been bound in eternal chains of darkness awaiting judgment on the great day. That means they live in darkness, wherever they can find it. They are legalists and will take their rights whether or not we like it. If we want to be completely free from their contamination of our souls we must remove all of their legal rights. We do this by confession of sin.
Confession of sin eradicates moral darkness (the sin itself) by exposing it to the light. It removes the legal rights that demons may have to the landscape of our souls. When we bring our sin into the light by confessing it completely and openly before God and preferably at least one other person, the promises of God guarantee our forgiveness and blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin and purifies us from all unrighteousness. We can do this because we know that we have peace with God—He is not going to punish us for what we have done. He has already accepted us. He loved us when we were still sinners and hence we have confidence that we can bring our sin into the light by confession. "Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for each other that you may be healed."

Once the legal rights have been removed it may be helpful to command any demons associated with the affected area to leave. We do not focus on demons. They are like rats that congregate around garbage. We don’t focus on the rats but get rid of them by cleaning up the garbage.

Finally, we retain our freedom by walking in the light as Jesus is in the light. We do it by refusing to surrender our members (our body and soul) as instruments of darkness and giving them to God for His exclusive use. The best way to retain our freedom is to abide in Christ—to make Him our source, our strength our life. Remember salvation is found in no other name.

1. Are you afraid of exposure (that is, is there anything that if exposed would cause you great embarrassment?)
2. Have you confessed those things to God?
3. Do you have any unforgiveness or bitterness you need to be free of?
4. Why don’t you get free?

Choose to live in the light.

Make a list (a personal inventory) of all sins that the Holy Spirit brings to your mind and heart. Now renounce them and repent of them and then burn the piece of paper. Proclaim FREEDOM from those sins in Jesus’ name. Now dance a bit—’cause life just got a whole lot more fun!!
Spiritual Warfare Six

Healing the sick was a significant part of the ministry of Christ and part of the ministry that Jesus delegated to his disciples. However, many Christians have a serious problem with praying for the sick. Poor practices of some healing ministers, the fact that not all are healed, and a desire not to hurt the ailing person, are a few reasons people have shied away from this ministry. A definitive survey of the Bible to establish the scriptural basis for healing is well beyond the scope of this day's reading. I suggest that if you're serious about praying for the sick you need to establish in your own mind a clear biblical foundation for the ministry. We live in a skeptical secular world and many of Christians have grown up without clear Biblical teaching on healing. The Word tells us that faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God. If you want to increase your ability to believe that God will heal when you pray then I suggest that a good intake of scripture is in order. I commend to you a book called CHRIST THE HEALER, by F.F. Bosworth, as it, along with a careful study of the scriptures, will help you as you fight on this front.

As a beginning, Jesus promised that we would do greater works than He did because He was going to His Father and would, Himself, answer our prayers. We are also told that laying our hands on the sick and the sick getting well was a sign that would follow believers. James 5:16,17 is foundational scripture for New Testament healing prayer. It provides a clear promise of healing following the anointing with oil of the sick person by the elders. The only condition given for healing is that any unconfessed sin needs to be confessed. In case you are thinking that only the elders can anoint with oil, the Gospels record the disciples anointing with oil and praying for healing. I should point out at this point that some illnesses are perpetrated or reinforced by demons.

SALVATIONISM 101 contains some good instructions on basic deliverance which would be good to review.
We can learn from Jesus as we follow His healing ministry. One thing we learn is that there were no formulae—sometimes there was mud, sometimes He cast out a demon, other times He spoke a word. What He often did do was acknowledge His Father and then issue a command for the illness to leave. We might think that this pattern would only be for Jesus since He was the Son of God. However, Jesus' encounter with a fig tree one day helps us to understand that it is for us also. Jesus told us that if we speak to the mountain and tell it to go jump in the sea and do not doubt in our hearts that it will happen, then it will be done for us. This has great applicability in the area of healing prayer. For example suppose you were going to pray for someone with a headache. You could pray, "Father, please take this headache away." Alternatively you could pray, "Father thank You for hearing me," then turning to the headache, command it to leave- "Headache I command you to leave now in Jesus' name." Either way we want to be listening to the Holy Spirit in case the Lord has something different He wants to do or something He wants to show us.

Peter Wagner, in his book on how to have a healing ministry in your congregation, gives some good advice for the beginner. He advises us to begin by praying for small things before moving on to pray for cancers and the like.

1. Do you know someone who is sick or has a need that you can pray for?
2. Have you ever ‘laid your hands’ on someone and prayed for their healing?
3. Do you know anyone who has been healed by the power of God?
4. Why not pray and ask God to direct you to someone who needs healing and pray?

Begin to step out in faith in your own journey of faith with Jesus... find someone today who needs healing—physical healing and pray for them, with them—out loud, in faith believing that God is able and desires to heal.

Use your authority to set some captive free TODAY!
During the reign of David there was a famine for three successive years; so David sought the face of the Lord. The Lord said, 'It is on account of Saul and his bloodstained house: it is because he put the Gibeonites to death.'... David asked the Gibeonites, 'What shall I do for you? How shall I make amends so that you will bless the Lord's inheritance?' (2 Samuel 21:1-3- read to 14).

"I saw the humility of Jesus, and my pride; the meekness of Jesus, and my temper; the lowliness of Jesus, and my ambition; the purity of Jesus, and my unclean heart; the faithfulness of Jesus, and the deceitfulness of my heart; the unselfishness of Jesus, and my selfishness; the trust and faith of Jesus, and my doubts and unbelief; the holiness of Jesus, and my unholliness. I got my eyes off everybody but Jesus and myself, and I came to loathe myself" (Samuel Logan Brengle, in Clarence Hall, PORTRAIT OF A PROPHET).

Sin does not evaporate. In fact, sin committed by previous generations can adversely affect the spiritual climate in a City, a Corps, a family, or an individual's life. We learn in 2 Samuel 21 that Israel was experiencing a famine in the land in the time of David that was due to a sin committed by Saul many years previous. Saul had put the Gibeonites to death, breaking the covenant that Joshua had made with them many years before. Even though the Gibeonites had used deceit to get Joshua to covenant that he would protect them, contrary to the Lord's orders for the Gibeonites to be executed, God honoured that treaty. When Saul killed the Gibeonites many years later, breaking this covenant, God struck the land with a curse. Unrepented and unconfessed sin committed by a previous generation still pays wages- Sin does not evaporate.

Many Corps are suffering a spiritual famine of God's Spirit because of unconfessed sin. Age-old attitudes and grudges often carry on from year to year, accepted and tolerated from generation to generation. Many Corps have suffered because of secret sins that have been committed within the leadership of the body. Often the people involved are disciplined, but the effects of the sin continue to pay wages because corporate forgiveness has never been sought. Very often gossip and bitterness goes unchecked, surfacing again and again. In many cases there has been rebellion to spiritual authority- people leaving because they were unwilling to deal with an issue, only to return when the next officer comes. This is not an exhaustive list, as each circumstance will be unique.

In our culture we are comfortable dealing with individual sin but have a hard time understanding and coming to terms with corporate repentance. It is interesting that the 2 Chronicles 7:14 passage that is so widely quoted today is actually a passage that provides healing for a land. Many of our Corps need the same kind of healing. Praying for revival without dealing with past corporate sin is like praying for rain and hoping to catch some in a barrel that has a hole in the bottom of it. It is like pouring fresh clean water into a sink full of dirty dish water; the fresh water can never make the dirty water clean. The sink needs to be drained first and then it can be filled with fresh water.
Dealing with the sins of the past requires spiritual maturity and wisdom. The task needs to be under girded with intercessory prayer, as the devil will not want to give up ground willingly. A combination of research, interviewing, and listening to the Holy Spirit will provide information needed to facilitate a corporate repentance. Once the information has been obtained, prayer will provide the next steps to actually bringing about a meaningful repentance. Great care should be taken in implementing whatever strategy the Lord gives. This is not the time to be a bull in a china shop, as more damage can be done by being hasty and inconsiderate. It is a time to walk carefully before God as He leads in granting a genuine repentance to the Body.

You will find the bookshelves of Christian bookstores littered with books on spiritual warfare these days covering every conceivable topic. In the course of a week's worth of devotionals it is impossible to cover every conceivable topic. Rather than focus on very specific aspects of how to do spiritual warfare, we laid some solid foundations. Some people say that the best defence is a strong offense, but as far as spiritual warfare goes Christians need to not only have strong offense, but a strong defence as well.

In this regard, perhaps the most insightful words of Jesus were those he spoke to the disciples prior to being betrayed by Judas. Jesus told His followers that the prince of this world (satan) was coming for Him but he (satan) had nothing “in” Him (Jesus). Jesus’ strength for spiritual warfare came from His own personal holiness- in Him was light and no darkness and because of this satan had nothing “in” Him. Jesus committed no sin and walked in the light of His Father’s revealed word, the authority that was delegated to Him and the specific instructions of His Father as received in prayer and by the presence of the Holy Spirit. Jesus did only what He saw His Father doing- He healed the sick and cast out demons and even raised the dead. From beginning to end it was the Father’s agenda- now that is spiritual warfare.

**GROUP WORK:**
Spend some time making a list of things that your group could do practically this week to put into action some theories of Spiritual Warfare. Now divide into pairs and hold one another accountable for one thing in one area this week! Decide and promise to pray for one another daily and check in with that person before next week to encourage them along!