

Sunday Morning | January 8, 2017

FOUNDATIONS



THE FIGHT OF FAITH

I TIMOTHY 6:11-12 (NLT)

TRUTH: The reality is that life is a battle because ours is a broken world.

TRUTH: The Christian life is not a playground but a battlefield (Ephesians 6:12).

INSIGHT: In 2017 if you don't sense the battle then you've surrendered, because the battle is in you!

I. IT'S A BATTLE BETWEEN THE OLD YOU AND THE NEW YOU (Romans 7:22-23).

TRUTH: God's will for you in 2017 won't be accomplished unless you fight the good fight of faith.

II. THE FOUR BATTLE FRONTS

1. The battle between selfishness and love

TRUTH: Every win means your life gets easier.

TRUTH: Selfishness creates conflict with others (James 4:1-2).

TRUTH: The more selfish we are, the more irritated we become with the weaknesses of others (Philippians 2:3-4 LB).

DEFINITION: Humility isn't thinking less of me but thinking of me less.

2. The battle between forgiveness and bitterness

TRUTH: You can't control what people do to you, but you can control your response (Hebrews 12:15ff LB; Matthew 7:2).

3. The battle between what is easy and right (Galatians 6:7)

4. The battle over short-term pleasure and long-term benefit

TRUTH: To get the best God has for you in this life, you'll have to fight for it.

III. THE WEAPONS YOU MUST HAVE IN 2017

1. Faith from God's Word
2. Support from God's people
3. Power from God the Holy Spirit