

Small Group & Personal Bible Study

Memory Verse: Hebrews 13:5-6

"Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." So we say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid."

Discovery Bible Study Exercise: In your journal or on a piece of paper make three columns and follow these steps:

- Step #1: Write out Hebrews 13:5-6
- Step #2: Re-write Hebrews 13:5-6 in your own words
- Step #3: Write out what you discover about God's protection. Name one thing God wants you to do in response to these verses?

Daily Meditation Reading:

Lessons on how God wants us into go to battle

- Day 1 – 2 Chronicles 20:1-30 (Jehoshaphat)
- Day 2 – 1 Samuel 17:1-58 (David)
- Day 3 – Judges 7:1-25 (Gideon)
- Day 4 – Joshua 5:13-15, 6:1-21 (Joshua)
- Day 5 – Exodus 17:1-16 (Moses)

Lesson:

I believe God has used many of these physical battles His children faced to teach us about Spiritual battles as well.

1. Look at the story of Jehoshaphat, as you reflect on the battle plans for Jehoshaphat and others in this week's readings, what is one message that you come away with regarding spiritual battles?

Allow people to reflect on these stories. You may want to ask them which story may have been most impactful on them and why. One of the constant lessons I learn from all of these is to trust God and to lean on Him alone. I also see that in every instance, faithful obedience is required to allow God to work. Each person went to battle; they did not run but faced opposition with confidence in God.

Our memory verse, Hebrews 13:5-6 is right out of the old testament, Deuteronomy 31:6 and Psalm 118:6-7. As you look over the span of the Bible, God has continued to remain faithful to His battle plan for Moses, Joshua, Gideon, David, Jehoshaphat, and for us (2 Corinthians 10:3-5).

2. How does God's battle plan for Spiritual Warfare comfort you?

I realize that if surrendering to Him and allowing Him to carry my burdens and my fears brings victory than my work is insignificant. I do not need to worry about my ability, my strength, my wisdom, or anything. I just need to trust and depend on Him who is faithful. When things don't make sense I can know that He is still in control and I must release control.

3. What connection can you make between battles fought by the heroes of the faith and the battles we fight today?
People like Jehoshaphat, David, Gideon, Joshua, Moses all stood in the face of odds against them. They all had to decide what they believed about God and His power and dominion. Like them I will face overwhelming opposition but still I have a more powerful God on my side no matter what may come my way.

1 John 4:4 – "You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world."

Hebrews 12:1-3 reminds me of the great cloud of witnesses who endured by faith (Hebrews 11) and so I can fix my eyes on Jesus who also endured and overcame.

4. Consider how Jesus Christ went into battle by reading Matthew 26:36-56. What battle plan principles from the message did Jesus demonstrate in his arrest and journey to the cross?

Jesus was determined to seek God (Matthew 26:36, 39, 42, 44). He knew God and His word (Matthew 26:53, 54, 56). He Depended on God (Matthew 26:39, 42) He Worshiped God (Matthew 26:30, 36, 56). He believed and obeyed (Matthew 26:42, 46, 52, 54, 56)