

Series: **EQUIPPED TO PRAY**

Title: **CALLED TO ARMS**

Text: 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

## EQUIPPED TO PRAY

So far, we have taught on....

- The Relationship we are called to with the Sovereign HOLY God
- The Recognition of His voice as opposed to other internal or outside sources

Today I want to speak about the Invitation that has been given you regarding your prayer

## **CALLED TO ARMS: (Invitation)**

### **Things Unseen: 2 Corinthians 4:16-18**

*<sup>16</sup> So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. <sup>17</sup> For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, <sup>18</sup> as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.*

### **Historical – mystics, spiritualism, metaphysical**

#### **Biblical**

- Angels, Visions, Words from God
  - Elisha and the army of God
- Creation, Virgin Birth, Resurrection

#### **Secular**

- Naturalism only
- Denies the existence of supernatural.
  - Ignoring that it even happens.
  - Claim that it is the product of drugs.
  - Claim that it is a distortion within the brain.
  - Betrays total hubris and arrogance.

#### **Secular in the church**

- Admits to a “form of faith” but deny the power thereof.

## Three Unseen Arenas of battle

### A. The Arena of Covering

The invitation to the arena of His Presence blocked by battle in the heavens.

- What blocks your access to heaven?

#### **In The Heavens: Air Support**

##### **Eph. 6:12 ESV**

*For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.*

##### **Daniel 10:12 ESV**

*Then he said to me, "Fear not, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand and humbled yourself before your God, your words have been heard, and I have come because of your words.*

- Daniel and Michael

##### **2 Kings 6:15b-17 ESV**

<sup>15b</sup> *And the servant said, "Alas, my master! What shall we do?"* <sup>16</sup> *He said, "Do not be afraid, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them."* <sup>17</sup> *Then Elisha prayed and said, "O Lord, please open his eyes that he may see." So the Lord opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw, and behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.*

- Elisha and Gehazi / the army of God

#### **In Our Midst: Ground Support**

##### **Hebrews 1:7, 14**

<sup>7</sup> *And of the angels He says: 'Who makes His angels spirits and His ministers a flame of fire.'* <sup>14</sup> *Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?"*

##### **Psalm 91:9-12**

*"Because you have made the LORD, who is my refuge, even the Most High, your dwelling place, no evil shall befall you, nor shall and plague come near your dwelling; For He shall give His angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways. In their hands they shall bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone."*

## **B. The Arena of the Mind**

### **The Invitation to His Mindset blocked by the Battle of the Mind**

- What robs you of the correct mindset? Ignorance? Lack of faith? Laziness? Sin?

#### **Having the Mind of Christ.**

##### **Phil 2:5 ESV**

*Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus...*

#### **Having the Mind set on the Spiritual.**

##### **Rom 8:5-8 ESV**

*<sup>5</sup> For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. <sup>6</sup> For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup> For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. <sup>8</sup> Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.*

##### **1 Cor. 2:11-12, 16 ESV**

*<sup>11</sup> For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. <sup>12</sup> Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God.*

*<sup>16</sup> "For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.*

##### **2 Cor. 10:5-6 ESV**

*<sup>5</sup> We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ, <sup>6</sup> being ready to punish every disobedience, when your obedience is complete.*

## **C. The Arena of Ministry**

- To yourself and to others
- Change Agents
  - Life happens every moment.
  - We walk in this world as God's change agents.
  - People in darkness will see the light as they come into contact with us... for we are lights in this world carrying His light.

- Whether it is a battle for the soul of another or victory in yourself, these three things must be present to have victory.

### **Discernment**

#### **1 Cor. 2:14 ESV**

*The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.*

- If you are not in Christ, you are out of luck.
- You won't be able to discern what is happening.
- The Spirit brings discernment so we are aware of what must be addressed.

### **Demonstration**

#### **1 Cor. 2:1- 5 ESV**

*<sup>1</sup> And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. <sup>2</sup> For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. <sup>3</sup> And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, <sup>4</sup> and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, <sup>5</sup> so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.*

### **Deliverance**

#### **2 Corinthians 10:3-4 ESV**

*<sup>3</sup> For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. <sup>4</sup> For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds.*

#### **John 15:7 ESV**

*<sup>7</sup> If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.*

#### **Mark 16:15-17 ESV**

*<sup>15</sup> And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation. <sup>16</sup> Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned. <sup>17</sup> And these signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will cast out demons..."*

#### **Luke 10:17 ESV**

*<sup>17</sup> The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!"*

## **The invitation to the Arena of Influence Battle in the Moment**

- **What freezes you when called to in-the-moment authority?**

## **Air support before and with ground support**

**Prayer to move the Heavens.**

**Prayer to move our thoughts.**

**Prayer to minister in the moment.**

## **CHALLENGE**

I will abide in Christ that I might have the Mind of Christ.

I will rely on Christ and the authority of His Name.

I will walk in the Spirit that I may discern spiritual things.

I will live in the Spirit that I might bring victory in my life and to others.

## **Prayer**