



SEPTEMBER CHALLENGE

The Power to Prevail

DAY 1: *The Power to Prevail*

Freedom is not confined to what we are freed from. Freedom must be seen in light of who we are now free to become. Discover how the nature of freedom causes you to live with a constant & consistent awareness of Christ's life in you, and explore the power you have in Jesus to prevail in all your circumstances.

Message

During last month's challenge, we explored the Nature of Freedom.

Freedom is not confined to just what we are freed *from*. Freedom must be seen in light of *who we are now free to become*.

2 Corinthians 5:17 tells us that in Christ all the old is gone and you are a new creation!

You are no longer a slave to sin. It is no longer your nature. Jesus removed it! All that remains is your attachment through memory to a habit, which can be broken by your partnership and relationship with the Three — Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Notes

God delights in this process.

God had great delight in seeing the mold of the old you shattered at the cross. It was His joy to set you free of striving in your relationship with Him so He could begin the relational process of making you in His image (Genesis 1:26).

In this challenge, we are going to continue to explore the nature of freedom.

Everything about the nature of freedom is learning how to stand, walk, run, and live with a constant and consistent awareness of the life of Christ in you. Christ in you is your Power to Prevail.

Colossians 2:13-15 says:

“When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross. And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.”

Over the next 3 days during this challenge, we are going to be exploring 4 powerful keys we have in Jesus to prevail in all circumstances.

#1 - The Power of Awareness

Colossians 2:9-10 says:

“For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, and in Christ you have been brought to fullness. He is the head over every power and authority.

“The key here is discovering — becoming aware — of just how full a life of fullness really is because fullness of life in Christ is what allows us to live above our circumstances, instead of beneath them.

We can never lose our real life in Christ... we can only lose our awareness of it.

This often happens when we allow the circumstances of life to overwhelm us and steal our focus—when we become more astonished by what is happening *around* us than the One who is living *within* us.

But when the nature of God is our greatest reality—when we are fully persuaded that nothing can separate us from who He is for us; when our full focus is on being alive with Him—then any negatives in our lives serve only as signposts that point to who God wants to be for us and who we are becoming because of our encounters with Him.

What God is offering us is His unchanging self, so that we too can become unchanging in our own nature and character, no matter what is occurring.

We can become as constant and consistent as He is.

You win in battle when the enemy knows that no matter what he does, you're going to use it to discover something new in the nature of God. His goodness, His kindness, His faithfulness, His peace.

That's when you begin to move from being a victor, to an overcomer.

Eventually, the enemy won't want to challenge you because you know how to use everything to your advantage. That's when you become more than a conqueror.

#2 - The Power of Patience

Waiting on the Lord is actively waiting with Him. It's discovering the joy and peace in believing.

Sometimes the most discouraging thing about a negative circumstance is just how long it lasts. Some circumstances in your life won't be resolved in a week, or a month, or even longer.

But the gift of enduring longlasting circumstances is that they are our opportunity to learn how to patiently abide in who God is for us. Remember, abiding is relational, not situational.

That means that patience is about responding to God's invitation to be with Him as you walk through your life, hidden in Him. Safe. Not needing surrendering to striving and stress, but to stay in rest and peace.

Without the power of patience we would be depleted by longlasting circumstances. Instead of having an expectation in who God is for us, in us, and through us, we would get caught up in the desperation of doubt and fear.

Without patience, our focus becomes fixed on who is against us, instead of the One who is for us.

Without patience, we will live in dread because of all that is happening to us, instead of being delighted by who we are becoming.

The Lord is eager to give you His elevated perspective of your circumstances. When you wait with Him, He reveals your new internal territory of who He made you to be in Jesus.

You are being made in His image. His peace becomes your peace. His joy becomes your joy. His patience becomes your patience.

When you experience this truth, the waiting isn't difficult because it renews and restores you continually.

You come out of your circumstance even stronger than when you entered them. All while your enemy (who has no patience at all) becomes totally depleted.

#3 - The Power of Intimacy

Relationship is power. It's our intimacy with the Three that intimidates the enemy and overwhelms him.

Ephesians 2:19-22 says:

"Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit."

The dwelling place of God is no longer in brick and mortar. It's in flesh and blood! It's in the relationship that God initiates with us—and that which we respond to.

Remember, God CHOSE intimacy with us. So don't ever underestimate His passion for you.

Jesus endured the cross to do away with us having only a visitational relationship with God, one where He would visit us in a tabernacle or in particular moments of time when we've proven ourselves worthy.

Because of Jesus, we now have a habitational relationship with Him, not an event but a lifestyle, built on the Oneness and unity of God in us.

The cross didn't upgrade our relationship with God. It created an entirely new relationship, the one God always desired from the beginning.

The Father loves you with the same love that He has for Jesus... and Jesus loves you with the same passion He has for the Father.

Every day He wants to astonish us with that love. Let Him.

When problems arise, don't stress and strive to find an answer—be *with* the Answer.

Above all else, you are first a worshipper. And a true worshipper knows that intimacy is non-negotiable.

Real breakthrough comes in worship.

In intimate fellowship, we are vulnerable to God's majesty and inaccessible to the world, the flesh and the devil.

#4 - The Power of Celebration

Don't wait to celebrate. Rejoicing and thanksgiving should not be saved up for when a specific outcome or resolution unfolds. In every circumstance, we can always celebrate who God is for us and who we are becoming in Him.

Celebration is agreement. It's a posture that aligns us with the Truth, no matter

what the current facts of our circumstances may be.

The truth is that God is with me. He is on my side. He is in me. He surrounds me. Everything about Him is for me, and He will help me.

Because God is always joyful, our rejoicing with Him triggers an experience of His joy which elevates us above our current circumstances.

No one can take our joy away from us, but we can surrender it by not understanding its power.

The joy of the Lord is your strength.
(Nehemiah 8:10)

So if you're feeling weak, don't try to be strong. Accept that joy is God's natural provision for us, then rejoice that you are living under His smile.

Joy is who God is. Rejoicing is our response to His true nature. Rejoice IN THE LORD always. And again, I say rejoice! (Phillipians 4:4)

Joy is in the process and strength is the outcome.

Remember this today: everything about the nature of freedom is learning how to stand, and walk, and run and live with a constant and consistent awareness of the life of Christ in you.

This challenge is about you encountering the fullness of God for you in a way that

overwhelms anything that could ever come against you.

It's about developing a majesty mindset where nothing is impossible for Him.

Christ in you is your Power to Prevail.

Feel His smile as you continue to discover the power of joy, the power of peace, the power of being alive to Him.