Victory Over Strongholds

There is one thing in your life that would change your entire life if you <u>conquered</u> it.

Stronghold - A fortified place; a place of security or <u>survival</u>.

What is the one thing that Satan is using in your life that holds you back time after time?

¹Now I, Paul, appeal to you with the gentleness and kindness of Christ—though I realize you think I am timid in person and bold only when I write from far away. ² Well, I am begging you now so that when I come I won't have to be bold with those who think we act from human motives. ³ We are human, but we don't wage war as humans do. ⁴ We use God's mighty weapons, not worldly weapons, to knock down the strongholds of human reasoning and to destroy false arguments. ⁵ We destroy every proud obstacle that keeps people from knowing God. We capture their rebellious thoughts and teach them to obey Christ. **2** Corinthians 10:1-5 NLT

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³We are human, but we don't wage war as humans do. ⁴ We use God's mighty weapons, not worldly weapons, to knock down the strongholds of human reasoning and to destroy false arguments.

2 Corinthians 10:3-4 NLT

 Victory over your strongholds is found by walking <u>closer</u> to God, not by simply attacking them.

Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world. James 4:8 NLT

It takes the <u>help of others</u> to defeat the strongholds in your life.

• You need to <u>tell</u> someone else about your strongholds.

Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results. James 5:16 NLT

 You need to <u>gather</u> with other believers who are growing to be more like Christ also.

And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near. **Hebrews 10:25 NLT**

It takes the Word of God to defeat the strongholds in your life.

We destroy every proud obstacle that keeps people from knowing God. We capture their rebellious thoughts and teach them to obey Christ. 2 Corinthians 10:5 NLT

• When you know the <u>truth</u>, it becomes easy to spot a lie.

I have hidden your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you. **Psalm 119:11 NLT**

"When Joshua was near the town of Jericho, he looked up and saw a man standing in front of him with sword in hand. Joshua went up to him and demanded, "Are you friend or foe?" 14 "Neither one," he replied. "I am the commander of the Lord's army." At this, Joshua fell with his face to the ground in reverence. "I am at your command," Joshua said. "What do you want your servant to do?" Joshua 5:13-14 NLT

Next Steps:

- I will <u>consistently</u> put myself in a position to know God more fully.
- I will share my struggles with someone else.
- I will apply God's truth to my current situation.