

NEW LIFE FREEDOM

Lesson 16



Have you ever made great progress in an area of your life and watched it fade when you lost sight of what got you there in the first place?

At this point in our semester, we need to continue using the tools that will help us be consistent in following God and His plans for us. We need to remember that freedom isn't just a short trip, it's a lifetime adventure.

First, take some quiet time to honestly assess where you are in the journey. Are there any issues that still pop up and sidetrack you? What lies are still lurking in the back of your mind, and how do you respond when your enemy throws them at you? Are you using the truth you've learned and are you confident in how you stand in God's eyes? This is a time to pray again as David did in Psalm 139:23-24, "Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my thoughts. Examine me, and see if I have not represented my feelings as they really are. Keep on always searching me out." We're making ourselves open to God's input at every moment and listening to what He reveals.

Paul talks to the early church in Corinth about the necessity for this kind of checkup. In 1 Corinthians 10:12, he says, "If you think you are standing strong, be careful not to fall." In other words, pay attention! This happens when we think we're finally mature enough to figure everything out on our own and forget we really need to stay in teamwork with God. By now we should understand how much we need God's word. It can sharpen our discernment in telling the truth from the lies our enemy sends. Remember that Jesus said, "I am the way the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." (John 14:6) He's the real truth. Just as those who work with cash learn to spot counterfeits by studying the real things, we can recognize how Satan uses his imitations to deceive and pull us away from the right way. The Bible helps us to be prepared for his attacks by giving us examples of those who have succeeded and failed in the battle.

Battle Tactics against the Enemy:

- Keep a collection of Scriptures on hand—there is more power in God's Word than we recognize!
- Stay committed to prayer (1 Thessalonians 5:17)
- Maintain exposure to content that encourages growth and healthier places for your mind to dwell
- Maintain accountability in your relationships—continue to release unforgiveness and offense any time they try to come into your spirit; continue to bring things out into the light with your Freedom table

SCRIPTURES FOR FURTHER READING:

Psalm 139:23-24, 1 Corinthians 10:12, Hebrews 10:23, John 14:6, Psalm 119:9-11, 27 and 34, 1 Thessalonians 5:17, Matthew 6:5-13, Galatians 5:7-8, Colossians 3:1-10



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