

Prayer for Victory: #14 in the Teach Me to Pray, Lord series
Sermon Handout

What is victory? Oxford Languages Dictionary defines victory as the act of defeating an enemy or opponent in battle or in a game, or competition. Merriam Webster dictionary defines victory as: achievement of mastery or success in a struggle or endeavor against odds or difficulties. Victory means coming out of difficulty on the winning side.

Prayer is essential for spiritual power and victory. Andrew Murray stated: "That man who has no faith has no prayer, and the man who abounds in faith will soon abound in intercession."

Prayer in the Holy Spirit is the foundation of every Christian victory.

1 John 5:1-5 NIV states:

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the father loves his child as well. ²This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands. ³In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome,⁴ for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. ⁵Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

When troubles come, we turn to God in the prayer of faith as we see David do here in:

Psalm 20:1-9 NIV

For the director of music. A psalm of David.

**¹ May the Lord answer you when you are in distress;
may the name of the God of Jacob protect you.**

**² May he send you help from the sanctuary
and grant you support from Zion.**

**³ May he remember all your sacrifices
and accept your burnt offerings.^[b]**

**⁴ May he give you the desire of your heart
and make all your plans succeed.**

**⁵ May we shout for joy over your victory
and lift up our banners in the name of our God.**

May the Lord grant all your requests.

Our unsundered fleshly nature is often the enemy of God and that which we most need victory over. It is so easy to want our own way so much that we convince ourselves that getting what we want is getting what God wants. But faith in Jesus desires most of all to be made like Christ.

⁶ Now this I know:

**The Lord gives victory to his anointed.
He answers him from his heavenly sanctuary
with the victorious power of his right hand.**

**⁷ Some trust in chariots and some in horses,
but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.**

**⁸ They are brought to their knees and fall,
but we rise up and stand firm.**

**⁹ Lord, give victory to the king!
Answer us when we call!**

For us, our anointed of God is the Messiah, Jesus Christ. He is our King. He is our victor. He is our intercessor. He is our savior. However, our Christ (which means anointed messiah) gives believers the Holy Spirit to live in them. According to 1 John 2:20, We, therefore, have an anointing greater than King David had. If we abide in Christ and He abides in us through the Holy Spirit we have access to every victory we truly need through Christ. As it says in:

Romans 8:31-39 NIV

³¹ What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

In Jesus Christ, God has demonstrated that He is calling us to the winning side.

³² He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? ³³ Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies.

Faith in Christ is our victory over the sinful world that would distract us from Christ or dissuade us by persecution. Faith in Christ is the victory that defeats sinful desires arising in our flesh because in Christ we have power to die to the lusts of the flesh and reckon ourselves dead to sin.

Every challenge to living for Christ can be won by praying for victory in Jesus.

³⁴ Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶ As it is written:

**“For your sake we face death all day long;
we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”^[1]**

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons,^[2] neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Power in prayer comes when our faith in Christ has applied Jesus' victory to the world, the flesh, and the devil. Faith in Christ is the victory which makes us more than conquerors through Him who loved us. Pray for spiritual power to live in the victory of holiness every day.