



Challenge from the podcast:

Write out a prayer to God asking Him to help you recognize wrong thoughts and take them captive to Him

Read 2 Corinthians 10:3-5 and use the definitions below to guide you.

For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ...

2 Corinthians 10:3-5 ESV

This prayer can be as simple as writing the verse in your own words, dedicated to God. I have given an example on the back, if needed.

My Prayer

Since the Bible was written in a language other than English, it is important to know that these words may have a deeper meaning than that which we immediately read into them. Below I have listed the definitions from the Greek text, the original language of this verse.

words translated

walk: to go full circle, intensifying, complete circuit

flesh: self-effort, unaided, untouched, unchanged by God; human effort; even respectable effort but not transformed by God.

wage war: fight, serve as soldier, warring lusts against the soul.

weapon: tool, instrument, implement, arms; God always gives all resources we need to prevail in every form of spiritual warfare as we live in the faith.

power: mighty, powerful, strong, (of all things possible).

destroy: demolish, overthrow, pulling down, knock down, takedown for oneself, leave nothing standing or in working order; where we derive the word catharsis.

stronghold: fortress, strong defense, false argument in which person seeks shelter; argument or reason to defend against opponent; opinion to defend or place blame.

argument: reasoning that reflects personal values, opinion, speculation.

opinion: self-effort, unaided, untouched, unchanged by God; human effort; even respectable effort but not transformed by God.

take captive: bring under control, captivate, subdue.



the Armor of God

005.This Means War

Yes, we are in a war!
But we have God on
our side, His spirit
within us and His armor
given to guard us.



My purpose is not to change minds, but to challenge perspectives. The knowledge that we are in a war should not frighten us, but rather enlighten us as to the divine power available to us from God.

HELMET of SALVATION:

This salvation is not limited to my destiny after death, but is essential to protect my daily thought life, knowing who I am, Who I belong to, and where I am going. This gives me significance and purpose and keeps me captive to higher thinking.



In John 10:10, Jesus is speaking and says, *The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.*

Thinking on our visit to the garden, how was the serpent like this thief; did he steal, kill or destroy anything from the woman? _____

Similarly, now that you have witnessed his tactics, hopefully from a new perspective, how does it make you feel? _____

How does John 10:10 dispute the doubt the seed of doubt the serpent planted in the woman's' mind long ago in the garden that God is not always good? _____

Finally, while all of the armor which God provides is necessary for spiritual warfare, certain pieces lend themselves as quick go to defenses for specific attacks.

When facing the battle of the mind, why would the two shown on the left be good choices to use quickly in defense of our thoughts? _____

SWORD which is... the WORD of GOD:

I endeavor to keep this sword always close, nourished by it as bread, renewed of mind, trusting it to sharply divide, teach, correct, prepare and equip me for my purpose.



MY PRAYER...

Lord, I no longer wish to wander in human effort, unaided by You. I now realize I'm in a spiritual war and the weapons I've always used are worthless. But I trust You will always provide for me resources more powerful than I can understand; weapons which can demolish all the places my enemy hides; which destroy every doubt denying Your goodness, stealing my faith in You. And Lord, I ask that You take my every thought captive, obedient to You, Jesus, as I want to have a whole mind, living life abundantly for You.

based on 2 Corinthians 10:3-5 ESV