



## **Preparation**

### **WEEK FIVE OBJECTIVE:**

Break strongholds in Jesus' power and find freedom in the presence of witnesses.



#### **Finalize**

If you did not get all your details finalized with your Serve Experience Impact Partner, make sure you get that done this week. Let Elijah or Maggie Schade know if you have any questions.



#### Read

Read pages 45-52, also you may want to review the Appendix page 98-105.



#### Communicate

Encourage your group mid-week. Remind them that homework will be a bit longer and to not put it off. Connect with the individual(s) who signed up about sharing their 2-5 minute story, and remind whoever signed up for snacks.



## **Preparation Continued**



#### Strongholds Prep

Make sure you have your male and female facilitators prepared for leading that part of the Strongholds discussion. Keeping notes on the Truths for each group member will be helpful with Week 10's prophetic prayer that you as the facilitator will be praying over each group member and with Week 10's words of affirmation. On Page 98-105, there is more information to read through to help prepare you for Strongholds.

Have a plan on if you are coming back together as a big group to close or close the night in the groups with prayer. You may need to have a Plan A and a Plan B. If there are only 10 minutes left and you are still talking in men's and women's groups, we would recommend that the facilitators close each group separately.



#### **Pray**

- Pray for the heart responses of each group member as the Spirit reveals areas of strongholds that need to be broken or re-surrendered.
- Pray for truth to be heard and received.
- Pray that each member and the group as a whole would live in victory over spiritual warfare.
- Pray for discernment of spiritual warfare. Remember, not every bad thing or struggle is spiritual warfare.
  Much of what we struggle with is our own sin and the consequence of it. Some tend to overemphasize spiritual warfare while others often underemphasize it.



## When You Gather

### **01** Memorize

Review the Memory Verse-Romans 8:1-2, Ephesians 6:17-18, Philippians 4:6-7 and Colossians 1:13.

### **02** Upcoming

Remind the group of the date, time, location and details for the Serve Experience.

### 03 Ice Breakers

What is your favorite tv show?

#### **04** Theme

The theme for this week is claiming victory over the enemy and to live in freedom from the bonds of sin and its consequences.

### 05 Story

Have whoever was scheduled share their 2-5 minute story.



## **Gathering Continued**

#### **16** Introduction Questions

Open with prayer and invite God into your discussion. Since our prayer experience, where have you seen or heard God?

#### **07** Discuss

What new thoughts do you have about Satan and his kingdom of this world?

What comforts do you find in knowing Jesus is victorious now and in the end?

Where do you recognize spiritual battles in your life?

Where do you feel dressed in God's armor to fight them? Where don't you?

Where is the love of the world creeping into your life? How does this open a door to Satan/evil? Where is it creating weaknesses?

Where in your life do you experience being a slave to sin and to God's law as Paul does in Romans 7?

What are examples of where "the flesh" is winning in your life? What are examples of where the Holy Spirit is winning?

#### **08** Review

Prayerfully review the list of strongholds and corresponding behaviors. Circle or list any areas of your life where Satan has a foothold, or you have allowed patterns of sin to develop.



## **Gathering Continued**

### 09 Strongholds

Split up into men and women groups. As the facilitator you may need to lead out with sharing your own stronghold(s) to get the group started due to the break in the discussion to get into groups.

Questions that might help get the discussion started:

How have repeated patterns of sin in your life caused problems or challenged your relationships?

What types of strongholds do you struggle with that you circled on Day 5? (It is more common to have more than one stronghold.)

Some people will think they do not have any strongholds. Once others begin sharing, they will recognize places of concern in their own lives. Allow discussion here. Encourage back and forth dialogue.

Help your group embrace the truth that contradicts the lie they have believed. Talk about the replacement of truth to that lie (pages 103-105 in the workbook).

#### **10** Pray

Encourage each person to pray the example prayer from page 103 over another person (see attached sheet for example).

Close your time with prayer for God to bless your group and the time together.



# **Prayer of Repentance**

Page 103-105

Father,
We come before you in the Name of Jesus. We as Sisters/Brothers recognize the power you have given us by the shed Blood of Jesus to demolish spiritual strongholds in our lives.
has given a foothold to sin in his/her life and we as believers
renounce the stronghold of
We claim the truth of by the authority of the Name of Jesus Christ. Through Your Power, we take back the ground surrendered to the enemy.
We pray you will enable to trust and obey
Your Holy Spirit, so that this area of his/her life will be in conformity to the image of Christ.
Amen!

