

## Knowing Ourselves

### LifeLinks Guide - October 1, 2023

"So it is said that if you **know your enemies** and **know yourself**, you can win a hundred battles without a single loss. If you only know yourself but not your opponent, you may win or lose. If you know neither yourself nor your enemy, you will always endanger yourself."

#### **Sun Tzu - The Art of War**

- If you were going into a military battle, how would it benefit you to know the strengths and weaknesses of your army and the enemy army?
- How can we apply this to our spiritual battle with Satan?

Read Romans 8:14-17 which was the central passage this morning.

The remaining questions come from Brett's four main points on what we must remember to be ready to fight on a spiritual battlefield.

#### **Point 1: You are a child of God.**

- Why is it important that you are an adopted child of God?
- What things might be true about a child's relationship with a parent in real life that relate to us in our spiritual relationship with God the Father? (Ideas: obedience, learning, loving unconditionally, etc.)
- How might someone's relationship with their parents (good or bad) affect their view of being a child of God?

#### **Point 2: You have weaknesses and experiences that God can use to help you grow.**

- Do you have someone you can be completely real with in your life? Why is that important? How can our small group be that kind of people for each other?
- Read James 1:2-4. How can our struggles help us grow spiritually?
- How can we use our experiences to help others through their struggles or trials?

#### **Point 3: You can choose how to live.**

- God established free will in the Garden of Eden. Why do you think God wanted to give humans free will?
- How can our free will potentially lead to sin or a deep, meaningful faith in God?

#### **Point 4: You have the strength to overcome the enemy.**

- Read Romans 8:9-11. How does this passage remind us that God has given us the strength to overcome the enemy with the help of the Holy Spirit?
- How does it fill your life with hope, knowing you can overcome Satan? How can that hope help get you through difficult times?

Pray together.