

Single & Single-Again TUES NITES Meal, Message & Mixer

Strongholds

Jane Stolz's video teaching, handout, and audio Mp3 file of this message will be online to share with others at www.christiansinglesindenver.com

3 For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. 4The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. 5We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

II Corinthians 10: 3- 5

There is a war raging in our **S** _____ and in our **M** _____. Satan is out to **D** _____ you and your witness for Jesus Christ. He is out to capture, corrupt and control our minds. Satan wants us to get caught up in the trivialities of life, and he wants us to believe that these trivialities are events that could potentially separate our unity not only as a community, but also and more importantly as believers.

We have to ask ourselves as individuals where evil can possibly be entrenched in our lives. Long-standing evil, that we protect by concealing it, resisting all attempts to overthrow it, persistent in holding us in bondage, darkness and despair?

I.) The Definition of Strongholds.

The word 'stronghold' means "to harden, or to make hard."

II.) How They Develop.

Strongholds develop when we allow the devil a foot-hold in our lives.

III.) How They Are Destroyed.

Jesus told us He is the way the Truth, and the life. Satan backs off from nothing but the absolute truth and the fact of God's Word

Righteousness

Love for Christ. Truth and Love are always linked together

Faith in Prayer

Unity in the Body of Christ

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Discussion Questions

Do you have a habit that might be considered a Stronghold? What do you think about that after hearing the lesson tonight?

Tonight Purity was used as an example. It's a tough subject because so many defend, defer, and justify their actions yet, Satan uses it all the time. He says it's okay! Yet there is so much devastation that occurs when not kept for the unity of marriage. What are your thoughts on this?

Do you yourself see where Satan can use these strongholds that affect your life? Bigotry, Materialism, Pride, Sexual Perversion, Pornography, etc. Satan is very persistent in wanting to control every aspect of our lives. Too many Christians trust Christ, and never do anything to prepare themselves for battle. What did you learn tonight that might be helpful?

Regarding our faith in prayer, Have you come to God's house tonight to worship Him, or just to socialize? Do you feel distant from Him? Do you need prayer tonight? Do you need to get right with Him?

HELPFUL TIPS for Great Table Discussions

**Each table should have a designated
Table Host.**

Use God's ear-to-mouth ratio:

Listen two times more than you speak. 1 or 2 people should not dominate the time, and EVERYONE should contribute during the discussion.

- 1. Smile and be friendly.**
Avoid excessive complaining about people or personal problems.
- 2. God's grace rules the day**
Recognize that everyone will not always agree – be gracious and give grace to one another. People are at different places in their spiritual walk and in their life journey.
- 3. Moving the discussion along.**
Table host/facilitators are to move the discussion along. They have permission to limit any negative comments, to invite people to answer a question, to ask someone for their perspective, to limit the amount of time some people speak, and to move on to the next question.
- 4. Help for the hurting:**
This is a supportive group, but it is not a support group or a therapy session. But if someone is really hurting, take a moment and have someone in the group specifically pray for them.