

# Three Steps to Victory—Part 2

## Overcoming Problems, Part 2

☑ **Target: Keep the victory!**

### Key Verses

*Romans 8:28—And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.*

*1 Corinthians 10:13—No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.*

*2 Corinthians 1:4—Who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.*

### Suggested Bible Reading

☐ Look up and study the Scriptures listed on the next page.

### Other Recommended Reading

☐ Finish reading *Obstacles Are for Overcoming*.

## Prayer and Praise: For Help Against Spiritual Problems

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Dear Jesus, I ask You to help me win the victory over these besetting sins that have been such a problem for me. I don't feel worthy of Your forgiveness, but I ask You to forgive me for my sins and to reach down and touch me with Your miracle-working power and deliver me.

It seems this battle has gone on so long. I've made some progress now and then, and sometimes I've done better for a little while, but then I've slipped back into my same old problems again, to the point that it often just seems hopeless, that there's nothing I can do. Then I feel the horrible weight of the condemnation of the Enemy, because I know that my \_\_\_\_\_ is not of You. [Note: You can fill in the blank above as applies to you, such as: bitterness, negative thinking, unloving behavior and interaction with others, envy, selfishness, criticalness, fear, lack of patience and understanding with others, laziness, angry spirit, etc.]

In spite of my sins and shortcomings, I know that You are my constant Friend, Companion, and that You are always there for me; that You love me with an everlasting love. You never let me go or forsake me or turn Your back on me no matter how undeserving or horrible and sinful I feel. As I pray this prayer I claim the verse that it's not because of or through any works of righteousness which I have done that You save me or deliver me, but it's by Your mercy (Titus 3:5). I need Your help! I can't do it, and if there's any hope for me, Lord, I know it has to be You! I thank You by faith for answering! I love and praise You!

## **Meditation: “Be Like Samuel”**

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### *A message from Jesus*

I need you to be like Samuel, who lived and worked in the tabernacle. He heard My voice and loved Me above all else. Even though things didn't always turn out the way that he expected, and he was faced with many battles, still I kept him and trained him and made him into the man that I needed him to be.

Because of his faithfulness to My Word, and because he faithfully sought Me, I was able to make his life a wonderful blessing to many through the words he passed on from Me and the things he did for Me. He was at the right place at the right time to anoint My chosen kings, and he helped to bring the people closer to Me. These things were possible because of dear Samuel's faithfulness to hear My whispers.

Be like Samuel. Follow My whispers and dedicate your heart to Me. You may not see everything clearly now, just as My men and women of the Bible didn't always know what I had for them up ahead. But they followed, and I did My part to keep them and bless them through each hardship and challenge.

Keep desiring to give your all to Me, and I *will* bless you. You won't be able to see all that I'm doing and working on from behind the scenes, but when you follow My voice and keep your heart right with Me, then I'm able to work out good things on your behalf. Even if things don't go as smoothly as you wish they would, and even if there are more battles and difficulties along the way, please remember that I'm right by your side. You just have to look up to Me, call out My name, and I'll help you with all that you need.

## **Putting the Word into action: Three Steps to Victory!**

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### ■ Step 1: Identify the Problem

- a. Ask the Lord about your problem: Psalm 143:10; Matthew 6:10.
- b. Read the Word: Timothy 3:16–17; Psalm 119:105.
- c. Recognize the spiritual warfare: Revelation 20:10a; 12:10; Ephesians 6:11–12; Isaiah 59:19b; Luke 10:19; Ephesians 4:27; 1 Peter 5:8–9a; Matthew 4:1–11; 2 Corinthians 2:11; 2 Timothy 1:7; 1 John 4:4; Philippians 2:10.
- d. Accept your responsibility: Matthew 7:3–5; Genesis 3:12–13; 1 John 1:9.
- e. Seek Godly counsel: Ask others to pray with you: Proverbs 11:14; 19:20; 17:17; 27:9b; Romans 15:1a.

### ■ Step 2: Find the Solution

- a. Pray and ask the Lord for help: 2 Samuel 22:7; Psalm 34:4; 50:15; Hebrews 4:16.
- b. Confess your sins to the Lord and if necessary to others: Psalm 97:10a; Proverbs 28:13; James 5:16.
- c. Take a stand against your problems. Don't give up: Ezekiel 36:26; 2 Corinthians 2:14; Ephesians 4:22–24; 2 Corinthians 10:3–5; 1 Timothy 6:12; Ephesians 6:10–11; Galatians 6:9; Proverbs 24:16; 4:18.
- d. Be positive: Philippians 4:8; 1 John 4:1; Romans 12:9b; Isaiah 26:3.
- e. Praise the Lord. Keep cheerful: Philippians 4:11; 1 Timothy 6:6; Jonah 2:9–10; Psalm 150:6; 71:8; 34:1.

### ■ Step 3: Move On!

- a. Recognize the lessons and grow: John 15:1–7.

- b. Keep your eyes on Jesus, not yourself: Romans 7:18a; Galatians 2:20; Isaiah 26:3; Hebrews 12:1–3.
- c. Trust the Lord that He knows best: Romans 8:28.
- d. Forget yourself and help others. Use lessons to help others: 2 Corinthians 1:4.
- e. Patiently wait on the Lord: Psalm 40:1; Lamentations 3:26; Hebrews 10:36; Isaiah 40:31; James 5:10–11.