

Life -- Battleground, Not Playground

by Shane Idleman

Shane Idleman emphasizes that life is a spiritual battleground requiring discipline, engagement with God's Word, and the control of our thoughts to live authentically as Christians.

Duration: 3:11

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 9:27, 2 Corinthians 10:4-5, Ephesians 6:12, 2 Timothy 2:15, Hebrews 4:12

Topics: "Spiritual Warfare", "Discipleship"

Description

This sermon emphasizes the transformative power of God's Word in our lives, highlighting the need for daily engagement with Scripture to bring repentance, improve relationships, and restrain evil. It stresses the importance of discipline and self-control, especially for those in leadership roles, to avoid hypocrisy and effectively serve others. The message underscores the spiritual battle Christians face, encouraging the use of spiritual weapons to overcome strongholds and align thoughts with obedience to Christ.

Transcript

Either the word of God penetrating your heart and as an anchor pulling you back pulling you back pulling you back I don't have to get in this every day because I want to check it off I have to get in this every day because by his word I live and breathe and have my being his word The word of god is living and powerful sharper than any double-edged sword. It'll divide me. It'll pierce me It'll bring me to repentance It'll have me be a better husband to my wife a better father to my kids.

This will restrain evil This will keep anger at bay, but the other junk just pulls you astray So we wonder why isn't my life working? It's not working because the flesh leads by default And it's a battle Shane you're saying I have to be disciplined and regimented. Absolutely We talked about that last week. Paul says I discipline my body which is to bring it back black and blue He beats up his body.

No, I bring you under subjection. You will listen to me I discipline my body. So when I preach to others, I myself should not become disqualified So paul saying if I don't even discipline myself i'm not qualified for service Why am I why am I not qualified for service because i'm a hypocrite who's being led by the flesh? There's nothing worse than a pastor preaching something that he does not live That's my greatest fear Because when I start to preach something I do not live the spirit of god is quenched and grieved And everyone in this room will know it It'll be like bricks are falling out of my mouth because I stand up here as a hypocrite You don't I don't do anything for everything perfectly.

I'm a work in progress. Just like everybody else. Please don't get me wrong But as christians we are in a warfare.

The bible says life is a battleground not a playground You see I have to shoot you straight spiritual weapons for the weapons of your warfare are not carnal But mighty through god for the pulling down of strongholds and casting down every argument every heightening that exalts itself against christ Doing what bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of christ? I'm called to bring my thought life captain my thought life's going out of here. No, you're not you're coming back here to christ My thought life is going out here. No, it's not it's coming back to christ.

I have to bring my thought life back to captivity Why because I control it. It doesn't control me. But when the flesh leads by default it controls you It pulls you you're not bringing your thought captain You're allowing it to captivate you

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