

A Battle Guide to Defeat the Dragon

Notes by Franklin

Based on the book: Every Young Man's Battle Guide

By Stephen Arterbum & Fred Stoeker; www.waterbrookpress.com

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Personal Opinions of the Study:

If you have read through the entire study and would like to express your opinion you may send an email to: treasurehisword@hotmail.com

Please let me know your first name and country. Your name will not be printed with your opinion, your country will be. There is no guarantee that your opinion will be added to the study notes.

- *"Awesome! And timely. So many scriptures focusing on the importance of purity. It's like bathing the part of my mind that is swayed by lust with tidal wave after tidal wave of truth!!! So powerful. This would be good to read every day."*

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I. Lust Is A Fire-Breathing Dragon

Lust is a fire-breathing dragon that when fed, quickly becomes strong, growing into a monster that can burn and devour you. It is exceedingly hard to starve this monster until weak enough to lock away in his cage. **DO NOT FEED THIS MONSTER OR HE WILL EAT YOU UP AND RUIN YOUR LIFE.**

So the **dragon** was **enraged** . . . and went off **to make war** with the rest of her children, who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus. Revelation 12:17

- He especially hates Followers of JESUS CHRIST and will do anything to defeat them.

And I saw coming out of the mouth of the **dragon** . . . three **unclean** spirits like frogs; (14) for they are spirits of demons Revelation 16:13

- And one of the meanest and most evil is the **demon of lust**.
- And this demon must **never** be fed, encouraged, or allowed any territory or he will destroy you from the inside out.

THIS IS OUR BATTLE – WE MUST DEFEAT THIS

FIRE-BREATHING DRAGON

The Ultimate Victory will be accomplished by the LORD JESUS CHRIST in the near future.

And He laid hold of the **dragon**, the serpent of old, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; (3) and he threw him into the abyss, and shut it and sealed it over him, so that he would not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were completed; after these things he must be released for a short time. Revelation 20:2-3

But until that day comes: WE MUST FIGHT and CONQUER THE DRAGON of LUST that lives in the man-cave of OUR body.

But thanks be to God! **HE GIVES US THE VICTORY** through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my dear brothers, **stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord**, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain. 1 Cor 15:57-58 NIV

The VICTORY IS YOURS if you want to fight for it, and take it.

This is the will of God, your **sanctification**: that you should **avoid sexual immorality**; (4) that each of you should **learn to control his own body** in a way that is holy and honorable, (5) **not in passionate lust** like the heathen, who do not know God; (6) and that in this matter no one should wrong his brother (or sister) or take advantage of him. **The Lord will punish men for all such sins**, as we have already told you and warned you. (7) For God did not call us to be impure, but to **live a holy life**. (8) Therefore, he who **rejects this instruction** does not reject man **but God**, who gives you his Holy Spirit. 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8 NIV

The Bible is implicitly clear on this subject:

Let there be **no sexual immorality**, impurity, or greed among you. **Such sins have no place among God's people**. Ephesians 5:3 NLT

For from **within**, out of a person's heart, come **evil thoughts, sexual immorality**, theft, murder, (22) **adultery**, greed, **wickedness**, deceit, **lustful desires**, envy, slander, pride, and foolishness. (23) All these vile things come from within; **they are what defile you**. Mark 7:21-23 NLT

II. The **Battle Ground is your MIND** and **controlling your THOUGHTS** will determine YOUR VICTORY or DEFEAT.

The devil **tempted** JESUS in the area of his human desires **by putting thoughts into His mind** (Mt.4: 1-11). To proceed and carry out any of these thoughts, JESUS would be disobeying His Father and obeying satan **giving evil a foothold in His life**.

For we do not have a High Priest who cannot **sympathize with our weaknesses**, but One who **has been tempted in all things as we are, YET WITHOUT SIN**. (16) Therefore let us **draw near** with confidence to the **throne of grace**, so that we may **receive mercy and find GRACE TO HELP in time of need**. Hebrews 4:15-16

In the same manner, our battle ground is **our mind – our thoughts**.

- Satan will try in every way to put lustful thoughts into your mind.
- Pornography is muscle-food for the dragon of lust.

2 Corinthians 10:2-6 . . . some people **think** that we live by the **standards of this world** (as seen in movies & TV). (3) For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. (4) The **weapons we fight with** . . . have divine power to **demolish strongholds** (where dragons live). (5) We demolish **arguments** and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and **we MUST TAKE EVERY THOUGHT CAPTIVE and make it obedient to Christ**.

III. Preparing For Battle

Ephesians 6:11-17 **Put on the full armor of God, SO THAT you WILL BE ABLE to stand firm against the schemes of the devil**.

- If you do not **put on the full armor of God** YOU WILL NOT be able to STAND against the **dragon** and he WILL attack you with his fiery breath and bring lust to full blaze within you.

(12) For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, **against the world forces of this darkness**, against the **spiritual forces of wickedness** in the heavenly places.

(13) **Therefore**, take up the **full armor of God**, so that you **will be able to resist** in the evil day, and **having done everything, to stand firm**.

(14) **Stand firm** therefore, having girded your loins with **TRUTH**,

- know the truth, and the truth will make you free. John 8:32

and having **put on** the breastplate of **RIGHTEOUSNESS**,

- It is put on by only living and doing what is RIGHT.

(15) and having shod your feet with the preparation of the **GOSPEL** of peace

- the **testimony** of what Jesus **has done for you** by His death, burial and resurrection and declared by the way you walk, talk and live.
- Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. Ps 119:105

(16) in addition to all, **taking up** the **SHIELD OF FAITH** with which **you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows** of the evil one.

- You **MUST** quench the flaming arrows or they will pierce your flesh bringing lust to full blaze.
- The Shield of Faith is - your **TRUST** in, and **OBEDIENCE** to, what the Word of God says. . . . **faith without works is dead** James 2:20

(17) **And take the helmet of SALVATION** to guard your mind.

- You **MUST** wear the “helmet of salvation” **at all times** to guard and keep lustful and evil thoughts –**dragon food** - out of your mind.
- Think and dwell on the Victory that **JESUS** won and has given to you freely by His Grace. **YOU MUST CONTROL YOUR THOUGHTS.**

and the **SWORD OF THE SPIRIT**, which is The **WORD OF GOD**.

- This is your **MOST POWERFUL WEAPON**. It is A **DRAGON-SLAYER!**
- Responding to every tempting lustful thought with: **IT IS WRITTEN !** Just as **JESUS** responded to the temptations the devil suggested to Him and the devil left Him alone. He is powerless against the **WORD** of **GOD**.
- **Memorize Galatians 2:20** and say it to yourself every time you have a bad thought to **remind** you that a dead man does not sin or have any lust. Also memorize and say **Philippians 2:5-9** thinking about the **GREAT PRICE JESUS PAID** for your **VICTORY**.
- **Therefore, YOU MUST READ, STUDY, KNOW and MEMORIZE the WORD OF GOD to be able to use the Sword and defeat the dragon of lust.**

(18) With all **PRAYER** and petition **pray at all times in the Spirit**, and . . . be on the alert with all perseverance

- **Praying in the Spirit** at all times throughout the day will keep you alert and in tune to the voice and wisdom of the HOLY SPIRIT.
For one who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God
1 Cor 14:2
- **Watch and pray** so that you will **not fall into temptation**. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak. Mark 14:38

And so, dear brothers and sisters, **I plead with you to offer your bodies** as living sacrifices, **holy and pleasing to the LORD** because of **all he has done for you**. This is truly the way to worship him. **DO NOT copy the behavior and customs** of this world, but **let God transform you** into a new person **by changing the way you think**. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect. Romans 12:1-2

The dragon also feeds on our body's hormones which increases his strength. Especially when these hormones first begin to flow.

The dragon begins to scream and demand to be fed. This is a VERY DANGEROUS and CRITICAL TIME . . . YOU MUST FIGHT THE FIGHT and WIN A VICTORY HERE or the dragon becomes a fire-breathing monster that can easily consume you for the rest of your life.

IV. RUN – not Walk - Away From Sexual Immorality

RUN from sexual sin! No other sin so **CLEARLY AFFECTS THE BODY** as this one does. For sexual immorality is a sin against your own body. Don't you realize that **your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit**, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself, for God bought you with a high price. So **you must honor God with your body**.

1 Corinthians 6:18-20 NLT

- Joseph RAN: Genesis 39:7-12

RUN from anything that stimulates youthful lusts. Instead, **pursue righteous living**, faithfulness, love, and peace. Enjoy the companionship of those who call on the Lord with pure hearts. 2 Tim 2:22 NLT

. . . we have sent them a letter that they should **keep themselves FREE** from . . . **all impurity and sexual immorality.** Acts 21:25 AMP

Truly, . . . **everyone who commits sin is the slave of sin.** John 8:34-35

Lust will wrap you in chains, take you prisoner, control & destroy your life.

V. We Are Commanded To Abstain:

abstain from . . . sexual immorality Acts 15:20

You must abstain . . . from sexual immorality. Acts 15:29

See that no one is sexually immoral Hebrews 12:16 NIV

Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to **abstain from fleshly lusts** which **wage war against the soul.** 1 Peter 2:11 NASU

The Bible is explicit about the DANGERS and DESTRUCTIVE HARM of sexual immorality.

VI. Listen to What Jesus said about lust

I say to you that everyone who **looks** at a woman **with lust** for her has **already committed adultery** (even out of marriage because the sexual act is a covenant-making act) **with her in his heart.** (29) **If your right eye makes you stumble, tear it out and throw it from you; for it is better for you to lose one of the parts of your body, than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.** Matthew 5:28-30

- Jesus is expressing the extreme severity of sexual immorality.
- Lust begins with what YOU SEE and what YOU HEAR creating a thought or picture in your mind . . . feeding the dragon.
- Pornography WILL RUIN you and Severely DAMAGE any future relationship before, and in, marriage.

With her **many persuasions** [the dragon] **entices him**; with flattering lips he seduces him. **Suddenly he follows** as an **ox** goes to the **slaughter**, or as one in fetters to the discipline of **a fool**, until an arrow pierces through his liver. As a bird hastens to **the snare**, so he does not know that **it will COST HIM HIS LIFE**. Now **therefore, my sons, listen to me**, and **pay attention to the words of my mouth**. **DO NOT** let your heart turn aside to [lustful] ways, **DO NOT STRAY** into her paths. For **many are the victims** he has cast down, and numerous are all the slain. Proverb 7:21-26

Perhaps God may **grant them repentance** leading to the knowledge of the truth, and they may come **to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil**, having been held captive by him to do his will. 2 Tim 2:25-26

VII. To walk in Victory or to Return to Victory requires WARFARE

As a **Dragon Slayer** / A **Soldier of the Cross**, **take up your cross daily and follow Me**. (Luke 9:23)

What does this mean? How do you take up your cross?

You should **consider** (make) **yourself dead to sin** and able to **live for the glory of God** through Christ Jesus. **Do not let sin control the way you live; DO NOT GIVE IN TO ITS LUSTFUL DESIRES**. Do not let any part of your body become a tool of wickedness, to be used for sinning. Instead, **give yourselves completely to God** since you have been given new life. And use your whole body as a tool to do what is **right** for the glory of God.

Romans 6:11-13 NLT

For though we walk in the flesh, **we do not war according to the flesh**, (4) for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but **divinely powerful** for the **destruction of fortresses** (where dragons live). (5) We are **destroying** imaginations and all lofty reasonings raised up against the knowledge of God, and **we are taking EVERY THOUGHT CAPTIVE to the obedience of Christ**. 2 Corinthians 10:3-5 NASU

VIII. Continually examine your thought life and . . .

RUN from **anything** that gives you the **evil thoughts** that young men often have, but **stay close** to anything that makes you want to **do right**. Have faith and love, and **enjoy the companionship** of those who love the Lord and have **pure hearts**. 2 Timothy 2:22 TLB

This definitely includes masturbation which requires imaginary sexual, lustful images to flood and permanently embed and control the mind. This results in a never ending flow of gasoline fueling the fires of lust that will burn and consume you and true love.

Don't allow love to turn into lust, setting off a downhill slide into sexual promiscuity, filthy practices, or bullying greed. Eph 5:3 The Message

Remember and keep all the commandments of God, and **not get distracted** by anything you **feel** or **see** that seduces you into infidelities.
Numbers 15:39-40 The Message

Those who live according to **the sinful nature** have **their minds set** on what that nature **desires**; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their **minds set** on what the **Spirit desires**. Romans 8:5 NIV

Do not let sin control the way you live; do not give in to sinful desires. Romans 6:12 NLT

IX. A Stern Warning of the Cost of Lust

(20) My son, **obey your father's commands**, and **don't neglect your mother's instruction**. (21) Keep their words always in your heart. Tie them around your neck. (22) When you walk, their counsel **will lead you**. When **you sleep, they will protect you**. When you wake up, they will **advise** you. (23) For their command is a lamp and their instruction a light; **their corrective discipline is the way to life**. (24) It will keep you from the **immoral woman**, from the smooth tongue of a **promiscuous woman**. (25) **Don't lustfully fantasize** on her beauty, nor be taken in by her seductive eyes. (26) For a prostitute will bring you to **poverty**, but sleeping with another man's wife will **COST YOU YOUR LIFE**. (27) **Can you build a fire in your lap and not burn your pants?** Proverb 6 NLT & The Message

For **God has not** called us to be **dirty-minded and full of lust** but to be **holy and clean**. If anyone **refuses** to live by these rules, he is not disobeying the rules of men but God. 1 Thessalonians 4:7-8 TLB

The one who **commits adultery** with a woman is lacking sense; **he who would destroy himself does it**. **Wounds** and **disgrace** he will find, and his reproach will not be blotted out. Proverb 6:32-33

(the word adultery means "break covenant." The sexual act is a covenant making act so therefore the word adultery refers to any sexual act outside of marriage)

X. Today's Choices Will Affect Your Tomorrow

If you put your hand in a fire you will experience the immediate results of excruciating pain. Everyone knows this and is very careful not to burn himself. Sin, however, has a **different timetable**, and the consequences do not immediately appear – **but be sure, THEY WILL COME.**

- Moses made the right choice: **choosing to endure ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin.** Heb 11:25

NOTICE that the pleasures of sin are passing.

You also must make the right choice, if not:

- I have seen that **fools** may be **successful for the moment**, but **then comes sudden disaster.** Job 5:3 NLT
- **be sure your sin will find you out.** Numbers 32:23 This is a good verse to memorize and to remind you over and over again and again.

Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for **whatever a man sows, this he will also reap.** (8) For the one who sows to his own flesh **WILL** from the flesh **reap corruption**, but the one who sows to the Spirit **WILL** from the Spirit **reap eternal life.** (9) Let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time **we will reap** if we do not grow weary. Galatians 6:7-10 NASU

Don't be misled: **No one makes a fool of God. What a person plants, he will harvest.** Galatians 6:7 Today's English Version

XI. Therefore: Choose Your Friends Carefully

They don't care anymore about **right and wrong** and have given themselves over to impure ways. They stop at nothing, being driven by their evil minds and reckless lusts. Ephesians 4:19 TLB

For they mouth empty, **boastful** words and, by **appealing to the lustful desires** of sinful human nature (television, movies & pornography do this) **they entice** people who are just escaping from those who live in error. 2 Peter 2:18 NIV

For **out of the heart** come **evil thoughts**, murder, **adultery**, **sexual immorality**, theft, false testimony, slander. (20) **These are what make a man unclean** Matthew 15:19-20 NIV

But now I am writing you that **you must not associate** with **anyone** who calls himself a brother but **is sexually immoral** or greedy, or a drunkard. With such a man do not even eat. 1 Corinthians 5:11 NIV

RUN from **anything** that gives you the **evil thoughts** that young men often have, but **stay close** to anything that makes you want to **do right**. Have faith and love, and **ENJOY THE COMPANIONSHIP** OF THOSE WHO LOVE THE LORD AND HAVE **PURE HEARTS**. 2 Timothy 2:22 TLB

Nor let us **act immorally**, as some of them did, and **twenty-three thousand fell** in one day. 1 Corinthians 10:8

- ❖ They were FOLLOWING the wrong leader.
- ❖ Don't just follow the crowd.

DO NOT BE TEAMED WITH THOSE WHO DO NOT LOVE THE LORD, for what do the people of God have in common with the **people of sin**? How can light live with darkness? (15) And what harmony can there be between Christ and the devil? **How** can a Christian be a partner with one who doesn't believe? (16) And **what union** can there be between God's temple and idols? For **you are God's temple**, the home of the living God, and God has said of you, "I will live in them and walk among them, and I will be their God and they shall be my people." (17) That is why the Lord has said, "**Leave them; separate yourselves from them; don't touch their filthy things**, and I will welcome you (18) and be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters." 2 Corinthians 6:14-18 TLB

For everything in the world — **the cravings** of sinful man, **the lust** of his **eyes** and the **boasting** of what he has and does — comes not from the Father but from the world. 1 John 2:16 NIV

Beloved, now **we are children of God**, . . . We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, . . . (3) And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him **purifies himself**, just as He is pure. 1 John 3:2-3 NASU

XII. Set Boundaries For Yourself

A mountain climber, scaling the face of a cliff, must make a decision to drive his rope fasteners securely into the rock or he will fall and severely injure himself. So must we **make a decision** to be **securely attached** to our **ROCK** (Psalm 89:26) or we will fall and severely injure our self as we attempt to climb out of the steep and dangerous pit of the **dragons temptations**.

As the enemy tempted JESUS, so will he tempt you with his perverse reasoning's like:

1. It's okay because you really love her. You are going to marry her anyway.
2. Why wait until marriage? We are already married in our hearts.
3. Marriage is only a piece of paper. And on and on go the speculations and reasoning's to try to clear their conscience and justify their arguments.

NO! The Bible teaches that **marriage is a covenant commitment** consisting of **vows** of faithfulness to one another and **consummated by the marriage act** of two becoming one which is a **blood covenant act**. **VERY, VERY HOLY** in the eyes of the LORD and should also be so to us.

From the very beginning the LORD SAID: Genesis 2:24 [For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become ONE flesh.](#)

- Through the sexual act, two independent people become "ONE" - joined together, bonded together, tied together in what can be called a "soul tie." When more than one sexual act is committed with different mates, the bonding or "soul tie" is divided with each and thus dilutes and weakens the marriage oneness or bonding preventing it from being all that the LORD intended.

Draw a line in the sand! Do NOT cross over into the dragon's territory. Make a firm Decision and stick with it.

Fight the good fight of faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called, and you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. (13) **I charge you** in the presence of God, . . . (14) that **you keep the commandment** without stain or reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ 1 Timothy 6:12-15 NASU

Choose you this day whom you will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or **the gods** of the Amorites, **in whose land ye dwell:** but **as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.** (16) And the people answered and said, God forbid that we should forsake the Lord, to serve other gods; Josh 24:15-16 KJV

David was **a man after My heart, who will do all My will.** Acts 13:22-23

After paying a HUGE PRICE for his immorality David made A FIRM DECISION and DREW A LINE IN THE SAND setting BOUNDARIES that he would **NEVER** cross again. **Here is what David said and did:**

How **blessed** are those whose way is **blameless**, who walk in the law of the Lord. (2) How blessed are those who **observe** His testimonies, who **seek Him with all their heart.** (3) They also **do no unrighteousness;** they **walk in His ways.** Psalm 119:1-3 NASU

I have chosen the faithful way; I have placed Your ordinances before me. Psalm 119:30 NASU

I considered my ways and turned my feet to Your testimonies.
Psalm 119:59

I am a companion of all those who fear You, and of those who keep Your precepts. Psalm 119:63 NASU

I have restrained my feet from every evil way, that I may keep Your word. Psalm 119:101 NASU

Depart from me, evildoers, that I may observe the commandments of my God. Psalm 119:115 NASU

I will walk within my house in the **integrity** of my heart. **I will set no worthless thing before my eyes; I hate** the work of those who fall away; **It shall not** fasten its grip on me. A perverse heart **shall depart** from me; **I will know no evil.** Psalm 101:2-4 NASU

XIII. The LORD Will Discipline Us

Hebrews 12:5-8, 9-11 And have you forgotten the encouraging words God spoke to you as his children? He said, "**My child**, don't make light of **the Lord's discipline**, and don't give up when he corrects you. (6) For the Lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes each one he accepts as his child. (7) As you **endure** this divine discipline, **remember that God is treating you as his own children**. Who ever heard of a child who is never disciplined by its father? (9) Since we respected our earthly fathers who disciplined us, shouldn't we submit even more to the discipline of the Father of our spirits, and live forever? (10) For our earthly fathers disciplined us for a few years, doing the best they knew how. But **God's discipline is always good for us, so that we might share in his holiness**. (11) No discipline is enjoyable while it is happening—it's painful! But **afterward there will be a peaceful harvest of right living** for those who are trained in this way.

I said to myself, "In due season **God will judge everything man does**, both good and bad." Ecclesiastes 3:17 TLB

I may mourn over many of those who have sinned in the past **and not repented** of the **impurity, immorality** and **sensuality** which they have practiced. 2 Corinthians 12:21 NASU

Stop acting so proud and haughty! Don't speak with such arrogance! For the Lord is a God **who knows what you have done He will judge your actions**. 1 Samuel 2:3 NLT

You can be sure that no **immoral, impure**, or greedy person **will inherit the Kingdom** of Christ and of God. For a greedy person is an idolater, worshiping the things of this world. Ephesians 5:5 NLT

When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, the results are very clear: sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures, (20) idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division, (21) envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these. Let me tell you again, as I have before, that **anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God**. Galatians 5:19-21 NLT

So PUT TO DEATH the sinful, earthly things lurking within you. Have nothing to do with sexual immorality, impurity, lust, and evil desires. Don't be greedy, for a greedy person is an idolater, worshiping the things of this world. (6) **Because of these sins, the anger of God is coming**. (7) You used to do these things when your life was still part of this world. (8)

But now is the time to **get rid of** anger, rage, malicious behavior, slander, and dirty language. (9) Don't lie to each other, for you have **stripped off your old sinful nature and all its wicked deeds**. (10) **Put on your new nature, and be renewed as you learn to know your Creator and become like him**. Colossians 3:5-11 NLT

Don't you realize that those **who do wrong will not inherit the Kingdom of God**? Don't fool yourselves. Those who **indulge in sexual sin**, or who worship idols, or commit adultery, or are male prostitutes, or practice homosexuality, (10) or are thieves, or greedy people, or drunkards, or are abusive, or cheat people— **none of these will inherit the Kingdom of God**. 1 Corinthians 6:9-10 NLT

XIV. God Wants the Best for You

God demonstrates **His own love toward us**, in that **while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us**. (9) Much more than, having now been justified by His blood, **we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him**. (10) For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, **we shall be saved by His life**. Romans 5:8-11 NASU

But now, thus says the LORD, **your Creator**, . . . and He **who formed you**, . . . **Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are Mine!** (2) When you pass through the waters, **I will be with you**; and through the rivers, **they will not overflow you**. When you WALK THROUGH THE FIRE, **you will not be scorched**, Nor will the flame burn you. (3) For I am the Lord your God, The Holy One of Israel, your Savior.
Isaiah 43:1-3 NASU

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, **who has blessed us** with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, (4) just as **He chose us** in Him before the foundation of the world, **that we would be holy and blameless before Him**. **In love He predestined us** to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, **according to the kind intention of His will**. Ephesians 1:3-6 NASU

As obedient children, **do not be conformed to the former lusts** which were yours in your ignorance, (15) but like the Holy One who called you, **be holy yourselves also in all your behavior**; (16) because it is written, "YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY." 1 Peter 1:14-16 NASU

For I know the **plans I have for you**, declares the Lord, plans to **prosper** you and not to harm you, plans to give you **hope** and a **future**.

Jeremiah 29:11

If you love me, show it by doing what I've told you. John 14:15 The Msg

The LORD always gives the Best to those who Trust Him and obey Him and follow the Plans He has for your life.

We all did it, all of us doing what we felt like doing, when we felt like doing it, all of us in the same boat. It's a wonder God didn't lose his temper and do away with the whole lot of us. (4) Instead, immense in mercy and with an incredible love, (5) he embraced us. He took our sin-dead lives and made us alive in Christ. He did all this on his own, with no help from us!

Ephesians 2:3-5 The Message

So **put to death** the sinful, earthly things lurking within you. **Have nothing to do with sexual immorality, impurity, lust, and evil desires.** (7) You used to do these things when your life was still part of this world. (8) **But now is the time to get rid it all.** Colossians 3:5, 7-8 NLT

XV. A Clear Conscience Is Of Great Value

I will maintain my innocence without wavering. **My conscience is clear** for as long as I live. Job 27:6 NLT

Paul began: Brothers, I have always lived before God **with a clear conscience!** Acts 23:1 NLT

Cling to your faith in Christ, and **keep your conscience clear.** For some people have deliberately violated their consciences; as a result, their faith has been shipwrecked. 1 Timothy 1:19 NLT

Everything is pure to those whose hearts are pure. But **nothing is pure** to those who are corrupt and unbelieving, because their **minds and consciences are corrupted.** Titus 1:15 NLT

XVI. Your Body Is A Temple

Do you not know that **you are a temple of God** and that **the Spirit of God dwells in you?** 1 Cor 3:16 NASU

Do you not know that **your bodies are members of Christ**? Shall I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? **Never!** (16) Do you not know that he who joins himself to a prostitute becomes **one body with her**? For, as it is written, "The two shall become one flesh. (17) But he who is united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. (18) Shun immorality. 1 Cor 6:15-18 RSV

Do you not know that **your body is a temple** of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God? **You are not your own;** (20) **you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.** 1 Cor 6:19-20 RSV

There's more to **sex** than mere skin on skin. **Sex** is as much spiritual mystery as physical fact. As written in Scripture, "The two become one." (17) Since we want to become spiritually one with the Master, **we must not pursue the kind of sex that avoids commitment and intimacy, leaving us more lonely than ever — the kind of sex that can never "become one."** (18) There is a sense in which sexual sins are different from all others. In **sexual sin we violate the sacredness of our own bodies**, these bodies that were made for God-given and God-modeled love, for "becoming one" with another. (19) Or didn't you realize that **your body is a sacred place, the place of the Holy Spirit**? Don't you see that **you can't live however you please, squandering what God paid such a high price for?** 1 Corinthians 6:16-19 The Message

XVII. Treat All Young Ladies With The Honor They Deserve

We know **what real love is** because Jesus **gave up His life for us**. So we **also ought to give up our lives for our brothers AND SISTERS**.

1John3:16 NLT

And he has given us this command: **Those who love God must also love their Christian brothers and sisters**. 1 John 4:21 NLT

Respect everyone, and **love** your Christian brothers and sisters. Fear God, and respect the king. 1 Peter 2:17 NLT

You were cleansed from your sins when you obeyed the truth, so now **you must show sincere love to each other as brothers and sisters**. Love each other deeply with all your heart. 1 Peter 1:22

XVIII. Don't Try To Push Past Her Boundaries

If your [girlfriend] is distressed because of what you [ask her to do sexually], you are no longer acting in love. Do not by your [sexual requests] destroy your [girlfriend] for whom Christ died. . . . (17) For the kingdom of God is not a matter of [petting and pushing past boundaries] but of **righteousness**, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit, (18) because anyone who serves Christ in this way is pleasing to God and approved by men.

(19) Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification [unity in Christ]. (20) Do not destroy the work of God for the sake of [lust]. . . . **it is wrong for a man to do anything that causes someone else to stumble.** Romans 14:15; 17-20 NIV

(wording in brackets added to emphasize our subject)

Treat . . . younger women as sisters, with absolute purity.

1 Timothy 5:1-2 NIV

Tell any girl that you date about your **vow of sexual purity** until you are married. This will be a strong help to guide all your actions when you are together. She will also help you be true to your word.

Also **tell her father** about **your vow** and commitment to **remain and be sexually pure until you are married**. Her father will greatly respect and trust you with his daughter. It could also be a strong challenge to him to be faithful to his wife.

The Bible tells young ladies

And I want women to be **modest in their appearance**. They should wear **decent and appropriate clothing** and not draw attention to themselves by the way they fix their hair or by wearing gold or pearls or expensive clothes. (10) For women who claim to be **devoted to God** should **make themselves attractive by the good things they do**. 1 Timothy 2:9-10

Don't be concerned about the outward beauty that depends on jewelry, or beautiful clothes, or hair arrangement. (4) **Be beautiful inside**, in your hearts, with the lasting charm of a gentle and quiet spirit that is so precious to God. (5) That kind of deep beauty was seen in the saintly women of old, who trusted God and fitted in with their husbands' plans. 1 Peter 3:3-5 TLB

Tell the girls you date that you have made a commitment to remain pure until after you are married. And if they dress in such a way that is immodest ask them to please dress in a more modest way so temptation would not be aroused in you. Regardless of what she says she will highly respect you.

XIX. You Have Been Called As A Warrior in God's Army

As David fought Goliath, You Must FIGHT the **DRAGON of LUST**.

Every Good Soldier **Follows & Obeys** His **COMMANDER IN CHIEF**.

He Has Called You to be His Warrior

For **you have been called** for this purpose, since Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example for you **to follow in His steps**, who committed no sin . . . but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously

1 Peter 2:21-24

He Commands You To Be Holy

Now **you must be holy in everything you do**, just as God who chose you is holy. (16) For the Scriptures say, "You must be holy because I am holy."

1 Peter 1:15-16 NLT

He Commands You to Become A New Person:

If you have really heard His voice and learned from Him the truths concerning Himself, (22) then **throw off your old evil nature** - the old you that was a partner in evil ways - rotten through and through, **full of lust** and shame. (23) Now **your attitudes and thoughts** must all be constantly changing for the better. (24) Yes, you must be a new and different person, **holy and good**. Clothe yourself with this new nature. Eph. 4:21-24 TLB

He Commands you to Think like He Thinks:

The **mind** of sinful man is death, but the **mind controlled by the Spirit** is life and peace Romans 8:6 NIV

Therefore, **prepare your minds for action**; be self-controlled 1 Peter 1:13

He Commands you To Be A Man:

Keep your eyes open for spiritual danger; stand true to the Lord; **act like men**; be strong; and whatever you do, do it with kindness and love.

1 Corinthians 16:13-14 TLB

He Commands Abstinence:

Abstain from every form of evil. 1 Thessalonians 5:22

I implore you as aliens and strangers to **abstain from fleshly lusts** which wage war against the soul. 1 Peter 2:11-12

He Commands Purity

purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness 2 Cor 7:1 NIV

He Commands you to be an Example:

I gave you an **example** that you also should do as I did to you. John 13:15

Let no one look down on your youthfulness, but rather in **speech, conduct, love, faith** and **purity**, show yourself an **example** of those who believe.

1 Timothy 4:12

Every Commander demands self-control from His Soldiers

Be self-controlled and **alert**. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion (or dragon) looking for **someone to devour**. **RESIST HIM**, standing firm in the faith 1 Peter 5:8-9 NIV

Why do you call Me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say? Luke 6:46

Like a city whose walls are broken down is a man who lacks self-control.

Proverb 25:28

XX. You Can't Fight This Battle Alone**You Need the LORD's Help**

- This is why you must **pray** at all times in the Spirit Eph 6:18
- **Draw near to God** and **He will draw near to you**. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

James 4:8

We are Accountable to the LORD

- Each one of us **will give an account** of himself to God. Rom 14:12

We are Accountable to Each Other

- **YOU MUST MAKE YOURSELF ACCOUNTABLE TO OTHER MEN.**
Share your victories and defeats, asking for help, asking for advice, asking for Prayer. Meet together on a regular basis.

Make a Covenant with yourself, with your eyes, **NOT to WATCH** any movies, TV programs, or books with the slightest amount of lewd pictures or language. **YOU MUST GUARD YOUR MIND.** If you just **slightly open the door** the **Fire-Breathing Dragon** will slip in and slowly gain more and more territory **until in full control.**

Ask the others in your **Accountability Group** to also make the same Covenant.

Five of you will chase a hundred, and a **hundred of you** will chase ten thousand, and your **enemies will fall** before you **by the sword**. Lev. 26:8

Encourage one another day after day . . . **so that** none of you will be **hardened by** the deceitfulness of **sin**. Hebrews 3:13

consider how to stimulate one another to **love and good deeds** Heb 10:24

Let the **word of Christ** richly dwell within you, with all wisdom **teaching** and **admonishing one another** Colossians 3:16

Be **subject to one another** in the fear of Christ. Eph 5:21

There may be **no division** . . . have the same **care for one another**. 1 Cor 12:25

XXI. Final Word:

It was for freedom that Christ set us free; therefore keep standing firm and do not be subject again to a yoke of slavery. . . . (16) So I say, **let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves.** (17) The **sinful nature wants to do evil**, which is just the **opposite** of what the Spirit wants. And **the Spirit gives us desires that are the opposite of what the sinful nature desires.** THESE TWO FORCES ARE CONSTANTLY **FIGHTING** EACH OTHER, so you are not free to carry out your good intentions. Galatians 5:1, 16-17

- Whichever one you feed will grow stronger and win control of your life.

(18) But **when you are directed by the Spirit** . . . (22) **the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives:** love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, (23) gentleness, and self-control.

Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, **act like men** (like The Man Christ Jesus) be strong. Let all that you do be done in love.

1 Cor 16:13-14

THIS IS OUR BATTLE –To DEFEAT THE **FIRE-BREATHING DRAGON**

The Ultimate Victory will be accomplished by the LORD JESUS CHRIST in the near future. And He laid hold of the **dragon**, the serpent of old, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; (3) and he threw him into the abyss, and shut it and sealed it over him, so that he would not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were completed; after these things he must be released for a short time.

Revelation 20: 2-3

But until that day comes: WE MUST FIGHT and CONQUER THE DRAGON of LUST that lives in the man-cave of OUR body.

But thanks be to God! **HE GIVES US THE VICTORY** through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my dear brothers, **stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord**, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain. 1 Cor 15:57-58 NIV

The VICTORY IS YOURS if you want to fight for it and take it.