7 levels of victory

**Experience new, higher victory**

**Monday**

Read 1 John 5:19-20

**Meditate** on the 5 things 1 John 5:19-20 claims you need to know.

**Tuesday**

Read 1 Chronicles 28:9, Matthew 18:12, 1 Timothy 6:10

Level 6 victory is when you know Jesus so well that your heart stops wandering off from Him. **Journalize** where your heart tends to wander off to.

**Wednesday**

Read Isaiah 53

What is it about Jesus that you wish you knew more of? Spend time today **praying**, getting to know Him better.

**Thursday**

Read 2 Samuel 4:4, 2 Samuel 9, 2 Samuel 16:1-4, 2 Samuel 19:25

**Read** the story of Mephibosheth. If Jesus were to ask you, “Why didn’t you come with me,” how would you answer?

**Friday**

Read 2 Chronicles 14, 1 Peter 3:15

Idols aren’t so much a matter of wrong or right, they are mostly about how much we love something.**Journalize** how king Asa went about removing the idols in his country.

7 levels of victory - part 3

**1 John 5 Amplified Bible (AMP)**

**4**For everyone born of God is victorious *and* overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has conquered *and* overcome the world—our [continuing, persistent] faith [in Jesus the Son of God].

**Level 1 victory begins when you are born again**

**5**Who is the one who is victorious *and* overcomes the world? It is the one who believes *and* recognizes the fact that Jesus is the Son of God. **…7**For there are three witnesses: **8**the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three are in agreement [their testimony is perfectly consistent].

**Level 2, you begin to accept God’s testimony given to you (what He tells you) over what others say, their experiences or even what you yourself think.**

**11**And the testimony is this: God has given us eternal life [we already possess it], and this life is in His Son [resulting in our spiritual completeness, and eternal companionship with Him].

**Level 3 victory happens when you realize your eternal life makes you fearless**

**14**This is the [remarkable degree of] confidence which we [as believers are entitled to] have before Him: that if we ask anything according to His will, [that is, consistent with His plan and purpose] He hears us. **15**And if we know [for a fact, as indeed we do] that He hears *and* listens to us in whatever we ask, we [also] know [with settled and absolute knowledge] that we have [granted to us] the requests which we have asked from Him.

**Level 4 victory is when you finally know God’s will, giving you unshakable confidence when you pray**

**16**If anyone sees his brother committing a sin that does not *lead* to death, he will pray *and* ask [on the believer’s behalf] and *God* will for him give life to those whose sin is not *leading* to death.

**Level 5 victory comes when you realize your sin, as a Christian, does not lead to death.**

**19 We know** [for a fact] that we are of God, and the whole world [around us] lies in the power of the evil one [opposing God and His precepts]. **20**And we [have seen and] know [by personal experience] that the Son of God has [actually] come [to this world], and has given us understanding *and*insight so that we may [progressively and personally] know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true—in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.

**Level 6 victory is when you know Jesus so well that your heart stops wandering off from Him**

I know Tina loves me; I don’t need to “feel” that she loves me. I simply know it and that knowledge is so powerful:

- it provides security and confidence,

- it frees me up to focus on the things I need to,

- I can be myself and not pretend to be someone else,

- I don’t compare myself to others out insecurity

- I am secure in the knowledge of her love.

- My heart doesn’t wandering off to other people

Level 6 victory is to know Jesus deeply, to know His love for you and to know some a few other important things as well.

But first…how can you get to this level of knowledge?

**Romans 8:38 King James Version (KJV)**

**38**For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,**39**neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Level 6 victory is when God finally persuades you, you know deeply

I know I am of God…I have no more doubts about my salvation, about my future or eternity, or my unbreakable spiritual association with my Father.

an extension of His person (identity) and purpose,

I am part of Him (vine, body)

What else do I know?

The whole world is under the power of the evil one.

This is why people are acting so crazy, why our government and country is in such turmoil, why the virus is destroying our economy.

With this deep persuasion…

- I act differently

- Take a hard look at the grey areas, slippery slopes

- I don’t want to wander away from Jesus

If I know I am of God and the whole world is under the power of the evil one…my purpose is pretty clear…rescue people

I know that Jesus has come to the world and His spirit (the spirit of Jesus, the Holy Spirit), thankfully, is still in the world!  His presence, his influence, His control is in the world.

has given us understanding *and*insight so that we may [progressively and personally] know Him who is true

**1 Corinthians 13:12 New International Version (NIV)**

**12**For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

When Jesus comes back and sets up His kingdom in Jerusalem so that the whole world becomes one state under God’s government. When that happens I want to make a pilgrimage to Jerusalem and when I gain audience with Jesus, I want Him to recognize me because He knows me.

…know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true—in His Son Jesus Christ…

Matthew 18:12 New International Version (NIV)

**12**“What do you think? If a man owns a hundred sheep, and one of them wanders away, will he not leave the ninety-nine on the hills and go to look for the one that wandered off?

1 Timothy 6:10 New International Version (NIV)

**10**For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

I struggle with distractions and I have a wandering heart that tends to chase this thing or that thing…you know what the remedy is? Level 6 victory…Knowing Jesus!

**1 Chronicles 28:9 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition (AMPC)**

**9**And you, Solomon my son, know the God of your father [have personal knowledge of Him, be acquainted with, and understand Him; appreciate, heed, and cherish Him] and serve Him with a blameless heart (following God and repentant lifestyle) and a willing mind. For the Lord searches all hearts *and* minds and understands all the wanderings of the thoughts. If you seek Him [inquiring for and of Him and requiring Him as your first and vital necessity] you will find Him; but if you forsake Him, He will cast you off forever!

**Revelation 2:4-5 New International Version (NIV)**

**4**Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the love you had at first. **5**Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place.

**John 15:9 New International Version (NIV)**

**9**“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love.

The way to love God is to remain in His love.

I am in love with Tina. You know what that means? I am in her love, loving her back.

You don’t need to try harder to love God…I just need to go run and jump into His love, and as I am in His love, my fiery love for God will come back if I am feeling cold or indifferent toward God.

I want know God so much that my heart stops wandering off “out” of Him….level 6 victory.

Isaiah 53:6 New International Version (NIV)

**6**

We all, like sheep, have gone astray,

    each of us has turned to our own way;

and the Lord has laid on him

    the iniquity of us all.

Mephibosheth - 2 Samuel 4:4, 2 Samuel 9, 2 Samuel 16:1-4, 2 Samuel 19:25

2 Samuel 19:25 New International Version (NIV)

**25**When he came from Jerusalem to meet the king, the king asked him, “Why didn’t you go with me, Mephibosheth?”

**21**Little children (believers, dear ones), guard yourselves from idols—[false teachings, moral compromises, and anything that would take God’s place in your heart].

**Level 7 victory comes when you cast down the idols loves in your life…everything that sets itself up against the knowledge of God.**

**2 Corinthians 10:5 New International Version (NIV)**

**5**We 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.

**Philippians 3:8 New International Version (NIV)**

**8**What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ

My delights, my giddy highs, my addictions, my obsessions… these are all like eating a rich dessert and then getting so sick that you throw up afterwards.

Recently I was working on something that was really excessively thrilling me. I went to bed that night and I confessed to the Lord, “This experience is intoxicating.” The Spirit replied, "Then stop drinking from this experience.”

Idols for Christians in many cases are grey areas.  They aren’t anything the Bible says is wrong. What is wrong is how much we love those things: our work or career, our eduction, our hobby, the identity we try to maintain. We defend our idol by saying that it isn’t something wrong mentioned in the Bible.

Idols aren’t so much a matter of wrong or right, they are mostly about how much we love something.

**1 Peter 3:15 Disciples’ Literal New Testament (DLNT)**

**15**but set Christ apart *as* Lord in your hearts,

Sometimes you have to dethrone something in your life before you enthrone Jesus.

But let’s think beyond personal idols…go back to 2 Cor 10:5…anything that sets itself up against the knowledge of God…

Level 7 victory is when a Christian begins to overthrow and topple demonic idols (thrones, authorities, principalities of this dark world) that set themselves up against the knowledge of God.

I truly believe, we cannot begin to participate in this level of victory until we have gained the first 6 levels of victory. We need to fight and win our own battles before we are successful in consistently winning battles for others…demolishing demonic idols.

**Mark 3:27 New International Version (NIV)**

**27**In fact, no one can enter a strong man’s house without first tying him up. Then he can plunder the strong man’s house.

You can’t dislodge and bind an idol in someone else’s until you have dislodged and bound the idols in your own life.

The level 7  of victory

Look at an example from the Old Testament - 2 Chronicles 14 - King Asa

**7 levels of victory found in 1 John 5**

Level 1 victory begins when you are born again

Level 2, you begin to accept God’s testimony given to you (what He tells you) over what others say, their experiences or even what you yourself think

Level 3 victory happens when you realize your eternal life makes you fearless

Level 4 victory is when you finally know God’s will, giving you unshakable confidence when you pray

Level 5 victory comes when you realize your sin, as a Christian, does not lead to death

Level 6 victory is when you know Jesus and because of what you know, your heart stops wandering off from Him

Level 7 victory comes when you cast down idols in your life…everything that sets itself up against the knowledge of God.