



Rock Creek Baptist Church
Mar 11, 2018

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How Do You Define Victory? Matthew 5
Are you going to follow God's definition of
victory or the devil's?
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Story: Mr. Palmer's tree
Illustration: It's not a line, it's a circle

How do you define victory?
By who can be the loudest? Nastiest?

Jesus could have fought the worst, but He maintained His integrity all the way to the cross

Luke 23:34
Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

Matthew 5:3-12
"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

John 3:30
He must become greater; I must become less."

1) Victory is realizing that this life isn't about me and my agenda. It's about God and HIS agenda!

2) Victory is dropping that stiff upper lip and relying upon God.

Meekness is defined as "quiet, gentle, easily imposed upon" and is so undervalued in our society many of us have probably forgotten what the word means

Matthew 5:38-42

"You have heard that it was said, 'Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.' But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also. And if anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, hand over your coat as well. If anyone forces you to go one mile, go with them two miles. Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you.

3) Victory is also giving more in grace than you've received in pain.

4) Victory is realizing that I don't have to change you or think that a bad attitude will "correct" your perception of me.

Matthew 5:9

"You're blessed when you can show people how to cooperate instead of compete or fight. That's when you discover who you really are, and your place in God's family.

Galatians 5:22-23

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

It is ridiculous to expect non-Christians to display the fruits of the Spirit. Similarly, how will they care about our God if we act just like the rest of the world?

5) Victory is making peace when others are making war.

Romans 12:10

Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

How can we change our attitude towards people?

Treat that person like you'd want your child to be treated
Give them the same grace and forgiveness God has given you

Romans 12:2

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

6) Victory is letting God influence who you are and how you act, not everyone else who crosses your path

John 3:16-17

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.