Battle Cry - Week Three

Main Idea

There is a sure way for you to have the power and authority needed to live in freedom and victory over sin.

Starter

If you could download a program and obtain knowledge and mastery of any skill, what would it be? Why? (For those of you familiar with the movie 'The Matrix,' imagine for a moment you are Neo.)

Discuss

Is there an area of your life or relationships where you've repeatedly failed? What feelings or emotions have you felt in those times?

On a scale of 1-10, how do you feel about continuing to pursue victory in this area?

1 = you have just about given up on the idea of ever winning in this area

10 = meaning you maintain ultimate confidence that you will figure it out

What would it mean to you to finally learn to walk in victory over that area of struggle?

Scripture

Have your group read Luke 7:1-7 and discuss:

• How does this passage describe an effective understanding of spiritual authority?

 What is the greatest personal challenge for you submitting to the authority of God's Word?
 Share a time when you have experienced the benefit of receiving and/or obeying God's Word. What happened and how did it go?
Read James <u>1:21-25</u> and discuss:
• Consider the promise in verse 25. What would it mean for you, your family, your business, and your friendships, if this promise were activated in the various areas of your life?
• Is there any area of your life that feels like a match to this passage's description of the person who looks in the mirror then walks away and forgets what their face looks like?
 Do you struggle more with hearing and receiving God's Word or obeying and doing what His Word calls you to do?
 What is one single act of receiving or obeying God's direction you could commit to this week?
Encourage your group in this principle: Before I can use my authority, I must put myself under His authority (The Word of God).
• Once you submit yourself to the authority of Jesus, all His power and authority is yours to unleash.

Apply

Have everyone spend a quiet moment in prayer and ask God to show them:

- A truth from Scripture they need to embrace more fully.
- A step of faith they could take this week to move toward better receiving and/or obeying God's Word in their lives.

In two minutes or less, share what God put on your heart. Then spend time praying together as the Holy Spirit leads.