

PRICELESS! YOU ARE VICTORIOUS!

By Commissioner Colleen Riley

There is a powerful truth that every Christian needs to hear—again and again—until it sinks deep into our soul and begins to shape how we stand, speak, and live: **YOU ARE VICTORIOUS**. Not someday. Not when life gets easier. Not when you feel stronger. But right now. Through Christ, you walk in victory. This is not the kind of victory the world parades—fame, fortune, or a flawless life. It is deeper. Truer. Eternal. It's the kind of victory that rises in the middle of chaos, clings to hope when everything feels broken, and proclaims, "Jesus is enough," even when your hands feel empty.

Victory is not something you strive to earn—it's something you are invited to walk in. It's already been won. Paul writes in Romans 8:37, "In all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us." Not after all these things. Not around them. But in them. In tribulation, distress, persecution, loss, and uncertainty—you are more than a conqueror because of Jesus.

This victory is not simply about surviving hardship. It is about living in the unshakable truth that the battle for your soul has already been won. You were bought with His blood (1 Corinthians 6:20). Your enemy has been disarmed and defeated (Colossians 2:15). And no matter what rises against you, you are standing on ground already claimed by grace. Let's be real: life is hard. The bills pile up. The kids have meltdowns. The job feels overwhelming. The marriage feels strained. There are tears no one sees, burdens that feel invisible, and fears too heavy to name.

Victory doesn't mean you won't feel weary or weak. It doesn't promise that your prayers will always be answered the way you hope or that pain will be absent from your path. But it does mean this: you are never alone, and nothing you walk through is wasted.

"For everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith." – 1 John 5:4 (NIV) Victory is not about avoiding the storm—it's about standing firm in the middle of it. Because your faith anchors you in the One who never fails. There will be days when victory feels far off. Days when you feel tired, defeated, or just plain empty. On those days, remember a powerful moment from 2 Chronicles 20. King Jehoshaphat faced a vast, terrifying army. The odds were overwhelming. But instead of panicking, he gathered the people, declared a fast, and prayed, "We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you" (2 Chronicles 20:12). That honest prayer reflects the heart of a woman who trusts her God, even when answers are unclear. God responded through a prophet, "Do not be afraid or discouraged... For the battle is not yours, but God's" (v. 15). The next day, the army went out—but not with weapons in front. Instead, they put worshippers on the front lines. They praised God before the victory was seen. And as they worshipped, God moved. The enemy was defeated before they even lifted a sword.

Victory looks like this: worshiping in the waiting, trusting when the outcome is uncertain, and praising before the breakthrough. Because your God is fighting for you. Though Christ has secured the victory, we must choose to walk in it every day. That means refusing to let fear have the final say. It means speaking truth instead of lies. It means showing up—faithfully, prayerfully—even when it's hard. "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes." – Ephesians 6:10-11 (NIV).

(Cont.)



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Territorial Women's
Ministries Department

Commissioner Colleen Riley
Territorial President
of Women's Ministries

Colonel Genevera Vincent
Territorial Secretary
for Women's Ministries

Lt. Colonel Jeanne Baker
Territorial Women's
Ministries Program
Secretary

You don't stumble into victory—you step into it intentionally. You put on the armor. You take thoughts captive (2 Corinthians 10:5). You run to the Word instead of worry. You replace anxiety with prayer (Philippians 4:6-7). You fix your eyes on Jesus instead of the storm. And when you fall—and you will—you get back up. You remember who you are. You remember whose you are. And you rise again, in the hands of Jesus. Whether you're in a season of celebration or sorrow, growth or grief, know this: victory is not seasonal—it is eternal. It's not just for the days when you feel strong; it is especially for the days when you feel weakest.

One of my favorite few verses in scripture are these: "He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." - Isaiah 40:29-31 (NIV). Some days you will soar. Other days, you will crawl. But every day, you are held. Because hope in the Lord never fails. Your victory is not found in how fast you run—but in who you run to. When the enemy whispers, "You're not enough," remind him: Jesus is. When your heart says, "I'm too broken," declare: He makes all things new. When fear tries to shout, "This is the end," proclaim: My Redeemer lives—and He has the final word.

Let your life proclaim what your heart believes: You are victorious. When you have areas of your life where you feel defeated, think about what it would look like to invite Jesus into those spaces and let Him bring the victory. And search the Word for truths in the Scripture that you can begin declaring victory over your life each day.

So, lift your head. You are victorious—not because of what you've done, but because of what Jesus has done. You don't fight for victory—you fight from it. It is because of Him—you are victorious. Share this truth it with another woman who needs to remember: she is not alone. She is not forgotten. And because of the Savior, she is victorious too.

Victorious Helps

Devotionals and Books about stepping into Victory through Prayer, Bible Study, Holy Habits and Spiritual Transformation:

5-Word Prayers: Where to Start When You Don't Know What to Say to God, by Lisa Whittle

Embraced: 100 Devotions to Know God Is Holding You Close, by Lysa TerKeurst

The Most Overlooked Women of the Bible: What Their Stories Teach us about Being Seen and Heard, by Mary DeMuth

Women of the Bible Speak: The Wisdom of 16 Women and Their Lessons for Today, by Shannon Bream

Spiritual Disciplines Handbook: Practices that Transform Us, by Adele Ahlberg Calhoun

Sacred Rhythms, by Ruth Haley Barton

VICTORIOUS QUOTES

"In times of defeat, we never know how close we are to victory. In every event of failure, God has planted a seed of success." Charles Stanley

"Nothing paralyzes our lives like the attitude that things can never change. We need to remind ourselves that God can change things. Outlook determines outcome. If we see only the problems, we will be defeated; but if we see the possibilities in the problems, we can have victory." Warren W. Wiersbe

Faith is necessary to victory. William Hazlitt (1822). "Table-talk Or Original Essays. - London, Colburn 1822", p.161

"The reason why many fail in battle is because they wait until the hour of battle. The reason why others succeed is because they have gained their victory on their knees long before the battle came. Anticipate your battles; fight them on your knees before temptation comes, and you will always have victory." R. A. Torrey, Edward D. Andrews (2016). "CHRISTIAN LIVING: How to Succeed in the Christian Life [Updated and Expanded]", p.259, Christian Publishing House

"Christ is building His kingdom with earth's broken things. Men want only the strong, the successful, the victorious, the unbroken, in building their kingdoms; but God is the God of the unsuccessful, of those who have failed. Heaven is filling with earth's broken lives, and there is no bruised reed that Christ cannot take and restore to glorious blessedness and beauty. He can take the life crushed by pain or sorrow and make it into a harp whose music shall be all praise. He can lift earth's saddest failure up to heaven's glory." J.R. Miller

"Though His power was clearly the source of her healing, Jesus identified her faith as having activated her cure." Shannon Bream, The Women of God Speak.

"You don't stumble into victory—you step into it intentionally. You put on the armor. You take thoughts captive (2 Corinthians 10:5). You run to the Word instead of worry. You replace anxiety with prayer (Philippians 4:6-7). You fix your eyes on Jesus instead of the storm." Commissioner Colleen Riley



There is power in the Word of God.

FLOURISHING IN THE WORD

For the month of September read through these scriptures about Victory in Christ and being Victorious from the Word of God.

~ 1 Corinthians 15:57

Sept. 1	Isaiah 41:10	Sept. 16	Psalms 18:32
Sept. 2	Joshua 1:9	Sept. 17	Habakkuk 3:19
Sept. 3	Psalms 73:26	Sept. 18	Psalms 73:26
Sept. 4	2Corinthians 12:9	Sept. 19	Nehemiah 8:10
Sept. 5	Philippians 4:13	Sept. 20	Psalms 46:5
Sept. 6	Deuteronomy 31:6	Sept. 21	Romans 8:28
Sept. 7	Psalms 46:1-2	Sept. 22	Exodus 14:14
Sept. 8	Isaiah 40:29-31	Sept. 23	Psalms 68:35
Sept. 9	Romans 8:37-39	Sept. 24	Jeremiah 32:17
Sept. 10	John 16:33	Sept. 25	Psalms 121:1-2
Sept. 11	Ephesians 3:16	Sept. 26	1 Peter 5:10
Sept. 12	Psalms 18:32	Sept. 27	2 Corinthians 12:10
Sept. 13	Psalms 1:1-3	Sept. 28	2 Thessalonians 3:3
Sept. 14	Isaiah 12:2	Sept. 29	1 Chronicles 16:11
Sept. 15	Exodus 15:2	Sept. 30	Ephesians 6:10-18

Transforming Ideas from the Territory

Orange County Korean Corps: The Corps has a program called "Spiritual Mothers Partnership" Where Home League members pair up with another younger woman and start to build a discipleship type relationship. This year they have had 19 relationships formed, the Spiritual Mothers pray weekly, write letters based on those prayers for them. This is done in a notebook; after writing 10 letters the notebook is then given to their spiritual daughter. They are committed to continually praying for and supporting the next generation with love and faithful intercession.

Riverside Corps: The women did mug decorating - taking time be reminded that we can all enjoy our quiet time and spaces. This was an encouraging project to then invite another woman over for tea or coffee. They encourage their ladies to share through personal testimony and lead a program. They have also been going Their bible study "Daughters of Grace" this has opened up encouraging and healthy conversations. It has been wonderful to see woman in the Bible who God has used even despite their weaknesses.

SF Lighthouse-SF Lighthouse – Our women participants here at the San Francisco Harbor Light Center, were able to attend the Symphony and dress up in donated gowns.

Tulare – One off the highlights off this quarter was the "Panel Discussion on Relevant Topics for Today's Christian Woman!" There were four groups divided into three, with one question each, and 10 minutes to work and discuss with each other, and 5-minute presentations.



MUSIC OF THE HEART

Victorious Living requires surrender, seeking, acknowledging the sacrifice of Jesus and the love of God for us. Listen to the words of these songs and let them speak to your heart.

I'm in His Hands: <https://youtu.be/dihH62UX42Y?si=0IX5pjbukzLFCsCf&t=3>

When God Ran: <https://youtu.be/4llkNalg5I?t=6>

My Victory: <https://youtu.be/uqQEcmLbF5E?si=nbPYgoYFzK-E9lTD&t=1>

Goodness of God: <https://youtu.be/67yWfBmVxAA?si=AbU9j8ygAj1YOxJb>

Victorious: <https://youtu.be/JHkFa8l9dQk?si=hpNTTOiOMkrX9EvC&t=1>

"NOTHING HAPPENS...until the pain of remaining the same OUTWEIGHTS the pain of CHANGE."
~ Arthur Burt