



WALKING BY  
**FATH**

## Fighting a Spiritual Battle

EXODUS 17:8-16

### I. The Israelites faced their first \_\_\_\_\_ on their way to the Promised Land.

*Then Amalek came and fought with Israel at Rephidim. So Moses said to Joshua, "Choose for us men, and go out and fight with Amalek." vv. 8-9a*

*Your physical life involves a spiritual battle with an enemy who opposes God's \_\_\_\_\_.*

*For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Ephesians 6:12*

### II. The Israelites needed \_\_\_\_\_ strength to fight the physical battle.

*"Tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the staff of God in my hand." So Joshua did as Moses told him, and fought with Amalek, while Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. Whenever Moses held up his hand, Israel prevailed, and whenever he lowered his hand, Amalek prevailed. vv. 9b-11*

*Your physical battle requires spiritual weapons such as \_\_\_\_\_.*

*For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. 2 Corinthians 10:3-4*

### III. The Israelites prevailed physically by being \_\_\_\_\_ spiritually.

*But Moses' hands grew weary, so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it, while Aaron and Hur held up his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side. So his hands were steady until the going down of the sun. And Joshua overwhelmed Amalek and his people with the sword. vv. 12-13*

*Your physical battle requires spiritual support such as prayer \_\_\_\_\_.*

*... praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints ... Ephesians 6:18*

**HOME GROUP STUDY & DEVOTIONAL**

As you begin, ask the Holy Spirit to teach you and guide your study.

1. Read Exodus 17:8-16. By what means did Israel defeat Amalek? Discuss how each is important.
2. What was God teaching Israel, and us, by having Moses raise his staff and his hands during the battle.
3. In response to the battle with Amalek, Moses built an altar (v. 15). In your own words, explain the meaning of the altar's name and how it applies to your life.
4. In what ways does this passage emphasize both the spiritual and the physical? Why is it important to understand how they interact in the Christian life?
5. Every day an opposing enemy pushes us away from God. How does knowing this affect the way we view our own life's circumstances? What should our response to this knowledge be?
6. God didn't let the people face a battle as soon as they left Egypt, but now they are facing their first one. Why now? What does this tell you about God, and what lesson does this have for our walk today?
7. How seriously would you say you regard prayer as a spiritual weapon? How has God used this weapon in your own life? How is He using it now to instruct you?
8. Are you sharing specific requests with one or more prayer partners regularly? Are you praying for them in a purposeful way? What is lost when we don't provide prayer support for others, or don't receive it?

**FOR FURTHER STUDY**

This is the first mention of Joshua in the Bible. His name means "the LORD saves." The Greek form of his name is *Iesous* [ee-YAY-soos], from which we get "Jesus" in English. Apparently Joshua stood out as a soldier of superior skill, no doubt possessing additional leadership skills that would enable him to prepare an otherwise untrained army for battle. Joshua is an ordinary man, but consider from the passages below how God is already preparing him even now for extraordinary tasks in Israel's history.

- Exodus 24:13; 32:17; 33:11
- Numbers 11:26-30; 13:8-16; 14:5-9; 27:12-21; 32:28-30; 34:16-17
- Deuteronomy 1:37-38; 3:21-29; 31:3-8, 14-23

The moment Moses was no longer able to hold his hands up, the children of Israel began to lose the fight. If it had not been for Moses, Israel would have lost the battle. The important thing to remember is that the Holy Spirit is the only One who can give us victory over the flesh. Victory comes as the believer walks in the Spirit. When you and I act independently of the Spirit, Amalek (or the flesh) wins an easy victory. When Moses' hands were held up, the Israelites won. You and I never will be able to overcome the flesh. It is only the Spirit of God who can do that.

J. VERNON MCGEE

Many people attempt to serve God in their own strength and in doing so strip God of the glory. Others, in what amount to a cop-out, do very little to serve Him and instead invoke such tired slogans as, "If anything needs to be done, God will do it Himself." God's defeat of Amalek teaches us that God will indeed fight for us, but we must stand ready to be His instruments in the battle in whatever way He chooses to use us.

GLAN MARTIN

We see here the beautiful combination of active energy with prayer. One part of Israel is fighting, the other is praying—both at the same time. Which, it might be asked, gained the victory? Both contributed towards it. To have prayed alone without fighting would have been presumption. To have fought without prayer would have been still worse; it would have been self-dependence. It is easy, however, to see which contributed most towards the victory. Which was felt to be the most important? It was prayer.

GEORGE WAGNER

True intercession is a demanding activity. To focus your attention on God and "pray without ceasing" (1 Thess 5:17) can weary you as much as strenuous work.

WARREN WIERSBE

**A WONDERFUL OFFER**

Being a Christian isn't based on membership in a local church or keeping a set of rules. It involves a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and an understanding of who He is and what He has done to provide man with a way to experience God's love for us. Here's how to know Jesus Christ as your personal Savior:

1. Realize that you are sinful and separated from God. (Romans 3:23; Isaiah 53:6)
2. Recognize that the penalty for your sin is death—eternal separation from God and all that is good. (Romans 6:23; Hebrews 9:27)
3. Understand that Jesus Christ took the penalty for your sin by dying in your place and that He rose again. (Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21)
4. Receive the free gift of salvation by trusting in Christ alone as your Savior. (Romans 4:4-5; Ephesians 2:8-9)

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life." (John 3:16 NASB) You can use this prayer to express your decision to God:

"Dear God, I know that I am a sinner. I believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross for me and rose from the dead. I trust in Him alone as the only way to get right with You. Thank You for the forgiveness of sins and the eternal life I now have. Amen."

**COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL**

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week at Christ Chapel. If you'd like to find out even more, visit [ccbcfamily.org/events](http://ccbcfamily.org/events).



**LOOKING FOR THE CONNECT CARD?** Scan the QR code here to fill out a Connect Card. Our team will reach out this week to answer your questions and tell you more about Christ Chapel.

**MAKE A SPLASH AND REACH WITH US**

This summer at Christ Chapel, we're diving into the magic of The Little Mermaid with our exciting new musical! We can't wait to come together as a community for an unforgettable event where neighbors and friends can enjoy the show—and hear the gospel in a powerful way. Tickets go live next week!

**WORSHIP WITH THE KIDSCAMP BAND ON THE GO**

Music from KidsCamp is now live and ready for you to enjoy! Search Christ Chapel Kids on your favorite streaming platform to find music from this year, and others! Whether at home, in the car, or anywhere you go, you can experience the joy and energy of KidsCamp worship anytime. Dive into the music, sing along, and keep the worship going all year long.

**DISASTER RELIEF**

Thank you for continuing to serve those impacted by the flooding in Central Texas and for helping our church family seek God together. There are meaningful ways to respond — through giving, praying, and going. If you feel led, you can support Disaster Relief efforts by giving on the Give page of our website. To serve on-site or stay connected through prayer, visit [ccbcfamily.org/texas](http://ccbcfamily.org/texas) for the latest updates on how our Disaster Relief Team is responding.

**SERVE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS**

Every Sunday, our Kids Ministry offers a special needs program where every child is welcomed, known, and given space to grow in their faith. It's a place filled with worship, friendship, and learning about Jesus in a way that meets each child where they are. We're looking for caring volunteers to help every child feel seen, valued, and included. Learn more at [ccbcfamily.org/kidsserve](http://ccbcfamily.org/kidsserve).

**USE YOUR GIFTS**

God has uniquely gifted you for your good and to build up the family of God! Whether it's offering a warm welcome or sharing the love of Jesus with kids, there are meaningful ways to serve at Christ Chapel. Step into a volunteer role and use the ways God has equipped, gifted, and shaped you — for His glory, your joy, and the good of His people. Find out more at [ccbcfamily.org/serve](http://ccbcfamily.org/serve).



**IF YOU'D LIKE TO GIVE AN OFFERING TODAY, YOU CAN DO SO STRAIGHT FROM YOUR PHONE** The process is quick and easy—scan the QR Code to start.