

**“BE INSPIRED AS 42 MEN SHARE ABOUT
BEING WARRIORS FOR JESUS.”**

- CHRIS TOMLIN

Tua Tagovailoa, Dave Ramsey, Craig Groeschel, and more.



UNITED FOR VICTORY

assembled, directed, & edited by Lance Ingram

United for Victory

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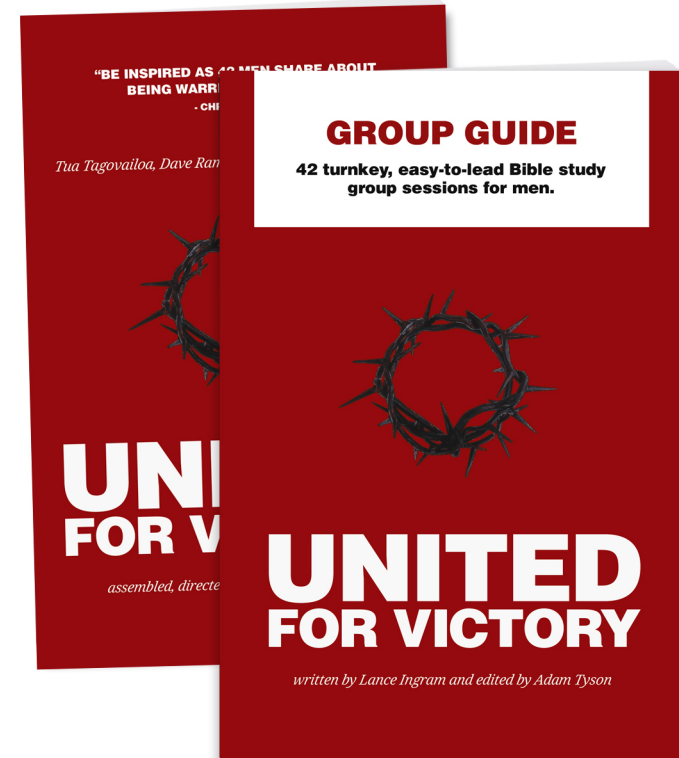
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GET THE GROUP GUIDE. IT'S A GAME-CHANGER.



United for Victory was created with men's groups in mind, which is why we created a dynamic Bible study to go alongside it. This supplemental Bible study is for men serious about fighting to become warriors for Jesus. The group guide is a no-nonsense, gut-checking, Jesus-centered tool that can also be used as a standalone study for men desiring discipleship. The 42 turnkey, easy-to-lead sessions outline the 42 topics covered in the book you're holding and provide additional content for each subject, including over 340 Biblical principles, encouraging scriptures, and challenging questions to serve as a catalyst for conversation among men ages 13 and up in a group environment. Get a group of men and get ready for spiritual victory.

GET THIS TURNKEY, EASY-TO-LEAD BIBLE STUDY AT WARRIORSFIGHT.COM.

From the Editor

My greatest passion is the Word of God. It needs no clever sales pitch. Its message is truth. It is foundation. It is life. It is peace. It is purpose. It is everything. That is why men must read it. They must hear it. They must live it. And when they do, their lives will make sense. But the question is this: How much effort are we putting forth to showcase God's Word to the men *outside* of the church and sell its attractiveness?

Jesus—the Word of God in the flesh—is perfection (Psalm 19:7). Yet, the church seems to be drifting down a dangerous road of adjusting *Him* to accommodate us. Facing the legitimate challenge of reaching culture with God, we are changing the *message* instead of innovating our *methods*. But here's the cold, hard truth: The message needs no amendment or enhancement.

The message is perfect, lacking nothing. And it must remain unchanged because it is infinitely relevant to every culture, delivering the best version of every person's life...as is. The challenge we face—the tension we must address—is in constantly evolving our methods to engage men with that message. Modernizing our methods is paramount to increasing engagement. We must use whatever means necessary, short of sin, to “sell” the Word of God to culture because it is worthy of every penny and ounce of effort invested to bring men Jesus.

It can be uncomfortable and inconvenient to move outside of the church walls and figure out how to bring Jesus to culture instead of expecting culture to come find Jesus where *we* gather, but that is our assignment in Matthew 28:19—to *go!* After all, the Word of God is a sword—an *offensive* weapon intended to advance and penetrate darkness (Ephesians 6:17).

The Bible can be an intimidating book because of its size and arrangement—the precise reason why its *delivery* is key to attract men to its matchless, timeless content. That is my personal mission and the mission of our organization, Warrior United—to generate engaging biblical resources that will unite men to fight for the things of Jesus, all while equipping men to excitedly *go* into culture with the message of Jesus, confident that its presentation is top-notch and its principles clearly articulated.

This particular tool, *United for Victory*, is intended to utilize the influence of men from many different professions in culture—athletes, coaches, businessmen, entrepreneurs, musicians, entertainers, authors, and pastors—to leverage truth and glorify God. It is a dynamic collection of intriguing personal stories from real men that magnifies the greatest Man to ever walk planet Earth—Jesus. We believe this method will successfully engage men with the message, and it won't be our last effort to gather men around truth and transparency.

In the three years invested to connect with each of these men and craft this resource, I was asked countless times by acquaintances, “Lance, what if these ‘Warrior men’ included in this project have a moral failure or stray from their faith in Jesus Christ? Won't it discredit this book?”

Each time, I responded with this same twofold biblical truth: First, the condition of the messenger neither nullifies nor amplifies the power of the message. The Word of God stands alone as all-powerful despite our inevitable shortcomings (Psalm 18:30). Secondly, not one of us is truly righteous (Romans 3:10). And even if we were, all of our righteousness is like filthy rags (Isaiah 64:6). So, in reality, the *message* is the star of this show, not the men.

These influential men have proclaimed their faith in God with a hand raised high, arm extended out, fist clenched tight, declaring that they stand on the spiritual battlefield as victorious warriors in Jesus Christ. We all as imperfect men are boldly and resolutely pointing to one perfect Man—Jesus Christ of Nazareth—as our unrivaled Hero, Savior, Lord, Friend, Passion, Focus, and Warrior.

- Lance Ingram, Founder of Warrior United and author of
Warrior: Equipping Men for Spiritual Victory

Introduction

“And they have defeated [the accuser] by the blood of the Lamb and by their testimony.” - Revelation 12:11

As men, we are warriors. It is in our nature. It is in our DNA. It is who we are because it is who God has made us to be. Genesis 1:27 tells us that we as humans were made in the image of God. God’s identity is literally built into our being. Exodus 15:3 reveals a part of that identity inherited from our Creator—“The Lord is a warrior; Yahweh is His name.”

We are wired to engage in spiritual combat, and it is on that spiritual battlefield where our existence meets its purpose. It is where power is activated. When we suit up for battle, we carry with us the supernatural authority to “crush Satan under [our] feet.” We as warriors are not afraid to fight in the battle because God has given us power. Second Timothy 1:7 says, “For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline.” When we step into combat, Proverbs 28:1 tells us that we are “as bold as lions.” And Romans 8:11 reminds us that we walk onto the battlefield with the same power that raised Jesus from the dead!

We possess power as we step into battle, but we must also possess *strategy*. We fight with focus, intentionality, and training. God has given

us a blueprint to defeat our spiritual enemy, to protect our marriages, to lead our families, and to advance His Kingdom. He has outlined specific tactics in His Word so that we live in spiritual victory by the power of His Holy Spirit. But we don’t succeed on accident. It takes deliberate strategy to do as Ephesians 6:10-11 tells us—“Be strong in the Lord” and “Put on all of God’s armor so that [we] will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil.”

We are to be strong and strategic in the battle. We must realize that the adversary has always and will always seek to destroy the men first so that families, churches, and communities crumble soon after. Are we ready to do hand-to-hand combat with the enemy of our souls? Are we ready to fight?

The good news is that when we *do* fight, God has already given us victory. First Corinthians 15:57 says, “But thank God! He gives us victory over sin and death through our Lord Jesus Christ.” Colossians 2:15 also reminds us, “[Jesus] disarmed the spiritual rulers and authorities. He shamed them publicly by His victory over them on the cross.”

You may have felt like a loser your whole life, but today, you are a winner in Jesus. Today, you have the victory. Through Jesus, you are more than a conquerer (Romans 8:37). Because of His blood you have been washed clean (1 John 1:7). You no longer have to fall into the traps of this world because Jesus has rescued you. He has redeemed you and revived you! You fight for Him now. You are in the Lord’s army.

Revelation 19 reminds us that Jesus will one day return to earth at the Second Coming, wearing a robe dipped in blood, riding on a white horse. He will come to wage the final war and conquer the evil of this world once and for all. And guess who will be with Him? We will! Revelation 19:14 says, “The armies of heaven, dressed in the finest of pure white linen, followed Him on white horses.” If you are in Christ, then you are in His army!

How you see yourself today will determine how you live today. You are not a loser. You are not a quitter. You are not a wanderer. Because of the atoning sacrifice of Jesus on the cross for your inadequacies, you are now a winner and a warrior.

Get ready to be equipped for spiritual victory and to learn what God’s Word says about who you truly are. We have all been strategically positioned by God to win our territory, whether big or small. It’s time to unite and fight. We are not wimps. We are warriors.

- Adam Tyson, Lead Pastor of Placerita Church in Santa Clarita, California, and frequent Gospel presenter at Kanye West’s Sunday Services

Stories

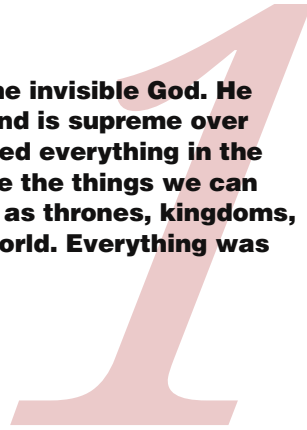
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TIM TIMBERLAKE

on Purpose

[Jesus] Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation, for through Him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can't see—such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through Him and for Him.

Colossians 1:15-16



There are certain questions that seem to haunt humanity as we navigate our way through life. Is there a God? From where did the universe originate? What is the meaning of all of *this*? Ultimately, all of life's biggest questions hover above the most existential question in a person's mind: What is my purpose?

Often, we tend to view purpose from the perspective of the individual. That is to say, we often assume that purpose is specific from person to person. While there are elements of this thought process that are true, it is essential to grasp this foundational concept: God's people *share* a purpose.

In short, our purpose centers on reflecting and expressing the values of the kingdom of God to those around us. In 1 Peter 2:9, Peter informs his readers that they are “royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession,” who have been “called out of the darkness into His wonderful light” to “show others the goodness of God.” This shared reality is the purposeful bond that defines God's family.

In light of this truth, perhaps when people ask about their purpose, they are more specifically asking about their place *within* God's purpose. Though we have a shared purpose, each individual within God's family has a unique role in reflecting the overarching purpose of God's people.

Think of it in terms of participating on a competitive sports team. Ultimately, the shared purpose of the team is to, for simplicity's sake, win. Within this purpose, each team member plays a specific role in expressing the purpose of the team. Therefore, the individual contributions of each player find their definition within the overall purpose. So, too, are the purposes of humanity as God's family.

In Colossians 1:16, Paul makes sense of this exciting reality and how His Son, Jesus, unites us for victory. Paul writes, “for through [Jesus] God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can't see—such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. *Everything* was created through Him and for Him.” The glue that holds all of creation, humanity, and humanity's purpose within creation is Jesus Himself.

The “participatory” nature of the kingdom of God is one of the elements that makes it so exciting. Not only does God want us to play on His team, but He has given each of the members of His family specific abilities to play critical roles in His purpose. Like a competitive team, all of the members of His family work *together* to express the overarching purpose.

Your purpose is not only tied to present functions but also to eternal aspects of hope. Imagine playing on a team with the foreknowledge that you've already won the championship game. As an expression of God's kingdom, we each play our dynamic roles on the team with intentionality and passion while also knowing that God has given us victory in advance through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. A relationship with Jesus is the access point of purpose. Thus, an individual's purpose is presently participating, eternally hopeful, and activated through the love of Christ.

Ultimately, the purpose of God's family will find its fulfillment in eternity. Revelation 21:7 says, “All who are victorious will inherit all these blessings, and I will be their God, and they will be my children.” In this way, your purpose is simultaneously aligned with eternity and aimed directly at this moment.

Unite with others to point humanity to the victory we all have in Jesus. Use your gifts. Express God's kingdom. Work together. God has strategically ordained your pain, your past, your entire story, to bring others into His peace-filled purpose.

Rest assured. Your purpose is bigger than you. Yet, you are an essential aspect of its fulfillment.

Tim Timberlake is Lead Pastor of Celebration Church in Jacksonville, Florida and Creedmor, North Carolina. He is author of *The Power of 1440: Making the Most of Every Minute in a Day*.

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