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Warrior of His Heart

Christine Casten
Executive Director of TWC

Over the years of my time in The Warrior Class, my understanding of what it is to be a strong, Kingdom focused warrior has shifted and expanded. God, in His faithfulness, opens new areas of discovery with each season.

The journey is not always easy. But then, I wouldn't want it to be. Easy doesn't allow for tempering. Simple and smooth removes the need to rely on Him and tap into His creative process.

In my time since starting my journey in TWC I've known seasons where my family had no income, deep grief, medical emergencies, loss, gain, victory and growth. I've been pressed down, shaken, squeezed. But, I've also found deep friendships, resilience, resolve, encouragement and new capacities I never realized I would carry.

When I joined what eventually became The Warrior Class, I was in a time of training, a wilderness time, where the Lord had set me aside and was reforming me. He actually stopped me in a prayer time and told me to sign up for Graham's intercession network. I had no idea then what He was getting me into! But, God!

What I have learned about being a warrior has deepened over time.

What started as an idea of "pulling yourself up by your bootstraps" shifted as performance mindsets gave way to resolve for love and a deeper heart-knowledge of faith. Instead of doing something by my own will, I learned to give over those things to God and trust Him in the process. My ability is as nothing without His empowerment and purpose.

Song of Solomon 8:8-10 The Shulamite Bride: My brothers said to me when I was young, *"Our sister is so immature. What will we do to guard her for her wedding day?"*

The Bridegroom-King: We will build a tower of redemption to protect her. Since she is vulnerable, we will enclose her with a wall of cedar boards.

Continued...

The Shulamite Bride: But now I have grown and become a bride, and my love for him has made me a tower of passion and contentment for my beloved. I am now a firm wall of protection for others, guarding them from harm. This is how he sees me—I am the one who brings him bliss, finding favor in his eyes.

To me, these verses reflect our warrior journey in TWC. We are awakened to new understanding and ways of seeing Him, ourselves and others. We train in the wilderness of our lives and in the secret places of our hearts, bringing maturity. As we do, we become passionate pursuers of His heart and learn to lean more closely on the Beloved: the One who loves us, awakens us, reforms us and raises us. In that place, we bring Him bliss as we become a firm wall of protection for others as warriors of His heart.

I have found many ways to describe what it means to be a warrior. Much of that focus was dependent on the area God was highlighting in that season. But, when I boil it down, being a Warrior of His Heart is about having passion and dependency on God that cannot be shaken.



"I've been pressed down, shaken, squeezed. But, I've also found deep friendships, resilience, resolve, encouragement and new capacities I never realized I would carry."

~ Christine





Warrior Class Training

Videos on Facebook

You may notice a few extra videos on Facebook over the next few months.

One of the activations in the current Champion Training focus is about taking something God has deposited in us over the last few months and making a short training video.

Those who have already posted have been fantastic!

You have been welcoming and supportive in your responses too! (THANK YOU!).

One of the things that makes **TWC unique** and **different** from a “training program” is that we look to create ways for each of you to have a voice in this **community**.

Although creating and posting a video is something we reserve for a specific training assignment, or for our coaches/trainers, we are creating more ways for more voices to be heard across our community.

We try to consider both extroverts and introverts in that process (maybe we are all actually **ambiverts** in the making?). In addition to posting on Facebook and sharing on the calls, writing a **blog** is another way to do this. And we are there to come alongside and help **support** you along the way.

Your support is needed, too. You each have the chance to **affirm** someone’s journey. For each person who follows through on their Champion video assignment, writes a blog, posts on Facebook or speaks on a call...YOU get to light ‘em up with **encouragement** and celebrate whatever they are discovering. At some point, because this is who we are as a **community**, you will get your brave on and get to be on the receiving end of some of that same encouragement!

Training Challenge – 2 part:

1. Write your own post on Facebook about something you have learned in your training or a question you have. Then put **#ChallengeAccepted** at the bottom.
2. Find any 2 posts on our Facebook pages and write a note of encouragement on each one!

TWC Prayer Assignments

CALLING ALL WARRIORS!

GRAHAM WILL BE SPEAKING IN NEW ZEALAND AND AUSTRALIA

MARCH 8-10 & MARCH 16-17

Calling all Warriors ~ Graham will be speaking in New Zealand at Aglow's "The Glorious Kingdom in His Presence Conference" on March 8-10. Let's stand in the gap and pray this crafted prayer.

Declarative Crafted Prayer New Zealand

We declare a time to move forward into the new land and possess it. The Lord cleared it and stirs up the hearts with fresh expectancy and joy.

We proclaim freedom from things/ways of the past and limited perceptions.

We embrace God's new strategic revelation, dreaming and creative imagination.

We partner with the power of His voice for change and generational impact.

We declare a double outpouring of promises and waves of grace. God releases a shift bringing radical renewal. An interpretation of vision and an ability to execute it in partnership with the Spirit.

➤ The keys of love, rest in preparation and intimacy release confidence and transformation.

We declare a time to raise up, equip and send out 'mighty men' to influence their region with the game-changer and limitless possibilities mindset.

We unify in vision and purpose with greater levels of faith. We answer the generational call to enter fullness of grace, permissions and favor with a fresh zeal and passion.

Romans 15:13 "Now may God, the inspiration and fountain of hope, fill you to overflowing with uncontainable joy and perfect peace as you trust in Him. And may the power of the Holy Spirit continually surround your life with His super-abundance until you radiate with hope!"

Calling all Warriors ~ Graham will be speaking in Melbourne, Australia at Stairway Church's "Next Conference" on March 16-17. Let's stand in the gap and pray this crafted prayer.

Declarative Crafted Prayer Australia

We declare a time of faith for new discoveries, revelation to hidden treasure and delight in Jesus.

➤ With a posture of readiness, hopefulness and openness, we open the treasures of limitless possibilities; revealing the rhythm of His heartbeat and abundance of life.

➤ This treasure expands our luggage, provides and equips. As we are perfected, His glory will be revealed in each of us.

Keys of wisdom on how to use our treasure will become clear.

As eyes are opened, vision is rejuvenated and language full of faith and promises is activated.

Passion and greater joy are revived as dreams are taken up and built.

Trust and confidence in God abound for the days ahead.

We share in God's exuberant joy and anticipation of partnering with us in the process.

John 11:40 "Then Jesus said, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God.'"

Calling all Warriors ~ Allison Bown will be speaking in the Netherlands at the Aglow European Conference, March 12-19. Let's stand in the gap and pray this crafted prayer.

As we stand with Aglow ~

With delight of the Father, **we declare**:

➤ A straight path (where curves might have been). A smooth paved trail instead of rough places

➤ Joyful intentional movement and alignment brought forth through God's purposes and plans.

➤ Relational unity that brings increase to each individual's purpose.

We release clear sight and detailed direction free from busy distractions giving strength and confidence.

We call forth new eyes to see God's dream.

We open expectation through new possibilities to understand all God has prepared for His loved ones.

We proclaim permission, freedom and boldness to approach the Father and ask questions out loud. Joy and ease of walking in favor to step into risk and adventurous things God has prepared for those who love Him.

Luke 3:5b "The curves will be straightened, and the rough places made smooth."



Thank you for covering Graham at the Imagine Conference!



WARRIORS: Dewey Compton, Sherry Somerville, Connie Jennings, Rod Miller, Meg Middelstedt, Teresa Morrison, Alma Copenhefer, Kathy Brown & Angela Bender



Teresa Morrison, Rod Miller, Meg Middelstedt & Connie Jennings

The Birthing of Reformation

The stand-out take away for me from Imagine was the confirmation from all speakers that we are at the birthing of reformation, one that is deeply tied up with the restoration of women to their original intent and design that Papa saw when he created His Bride.

Graham picked this up as he spoke about the world needing to see the Body of Christ emerging in its locality, apostolic and united. “You know what I want to hear?” he asked. “The sound of pre-Christians freaking out because they’re seeing the real church. “The real church has come! I’ve seen them – they’re amazing!””

He gave us an assignment to imagine what the Kingdom will look like in our place of work, our family, our city, our street. “Your Kingdom come in fullness and power, to override and upgrade everything it touches,” he declared. “Raise up hundreds of thousands of catalysts who can imagine because they can hear Your heart.... millions of Christians in this nation who are delighted to think and love in a marvelous way because they’ve never met an enemy in their life.”

- Meg Mittelstedt

Imagine Takeaways

Graham was talking about the bride of Christ not being prepared. He says something to the effect that, “The Lord is probably asking The Father to delay his 2nd coming because the bride is not looking so much like a bride.” When we think of a bride and the amount of time that goes into preparing for the wedding, the Bride of Christ is lacking in adornment and commitment to walk on earth as we are seen in Heaven. It’s time the Bride of Christ moves in the impossible!

Shawn shares a story about his father taking his sister shopping. When they return, Shawn asks to see the receipts of what was purchased for his sister. When he looks at the receipts, he is excited because his father will also be blessing him with the same measure of blessing. I am so relieved that The Father is not a respecter of persons and makes all blessings available to All his children. This truly was an eye opener for me. I often attributed gifting, anointing, and blessings given as part of God’s sovereignty, but the whole receipt analogy puts the blessings in a place where any and all blessings are available to ME. I just Need to Claim them.

- Alma Copenhefer

TESTIMONIES FROM IMAGINE CONFERENCE

My Experience at IMAGINE

Graham was hitting a home run on Saturday morning, focusing on the New Man. He made so many brilliant statements that resonated with me...

“When we explore God, we discover ourselves.”

Great reminder that focus is everything! What we behold we become.

He shared how dreams, visions and prophecy go straight to the heart. “If there’s a prophecy, vision or dream, there is a promise or resource attached to it. Ask Holy Spirit what they are?” This has motivated me to be more intentional and to ask more questions. I want to discover and squeeze out all the promises and resources that are attached.

In his wisdom, Graham said, “We need a Grace Grower to GROW UP! Don’t get annoyed people are there, but know they are there for a reason. They teach us to move in the opposite spirit. It’s not about the grace grower, but about us and Jesus walking together.” WOW, this was another fabulous adjustment in my perspective! It will be a key for me... to be thankful they are in my life, to love them and to unlock the treasures in my Grace Growers.

At the end of this session, Graham challenged us to “IMAGINE what the Kingdom would look like... in our church, city, school, work, family, marriage, etc.? And then GO DO IT!” So encouraging and real, to imagine this practically, and walk it out in different areas of my life!

- Connie Jennings



It’s always a GREAT time when we can meet in person!

- Sherry, Teresa & Alma



IMAGINE, Opened my Understanding!

I gained so many upgrades at the Imagine Conference! Graham, was fully engaged in his gift of WISDOM, speaking LIFE and TRUTH. I could hear people commenting, “Wow, I’ve never heard him before!” For me, it was a JOY to see Graham paired with his peers, there was a sense of camaraderie and synergy as one built upon another.

WM Paul Young, the author of the Shack said things that caused me to think and think again... A few things that he spoke about was how we are ALL made in the image of God. So, when you see goodness and kindness in people *who don’t yet know the Lord*, you speak to the goodness that is already inside of them. God so loved the WORLD that He gave...with no promise that we would return or respond to His gift of salvation, God is a GIVER!! WM Paul Young has such a broad view of the love of God (Father, Son and the Holy Spirit). In wisdom, he went down denominations and broke the walls that separate us, and stuck to the LOVE of God for all humanity. Whew!

Lastly, Steffany Gretzinger, a worship leader at Bethel, began worship at such a high place! Normally we feel the climb of ascension, but when she got on stage she arrived in a high place. She didn’t lead worship – she worshipped! I was immersed in the atmosphere. The Lord showed me how each person was releasing love, joy, adoration, peace, excitement etc..from their Spirit, that’s what I was feeling! Collectively, what every person released into the Angelus Temple, no foe could hinder – we were UNSTOPPABLE!

This picture is of an artist. The Lord showed my husband how the Lord makes a beautiful man out of a clump of clay, such artistry! We are fearfully and wonderfully made!

- Teresa Morrison





Meg Middelstedt
New Member Coach

Training Calls

Songs of Ascent – Invitation!

**Join us for Songs of Ascent (Take Two!) on
March 9, 2018, 5-6:30 pm PST.**

We will be talking all about what it means to upgrade our worship and rejoicing.

Consider this:

- Ever wondered what it means to upgrade your worship?
- Does it mean more singing?
- More time listening to worship music?
- A deeper level of intimacy?

Questions:

1. Spend some time worshipping the Lord through one or two of the Songs of Ascent in the book of Psalms (Psalms 120 to 134) or another favorite passage.
3. What is the Lord saying to you about the upgrade of worship you will need to take and hold your new territory? Think broadly about the various forms worship can take beyond worshipping through music.
3. What is the Lord saying to you about the upgrade of worship you will need to take and hold your new territory? Think broadly about the various forms worship can take beyond worshipping through music.
4. Using these ideas, what is one concrete step you will take to upgrade your worship with Papa?

We'll explore these notions, and more importantly, we will look at expanding ways of thinking about what it means to worship to include all of life.

What does it mean to worship from your identity, to deepen in a lifestyle of worship, and to align with God's heart? We'll hear from each other about ways that we have experienced an upgrade in our worship as we seek to take and hold territory with Papa.

This call is OPEN to anyone in TWC.

Join us!

- Meg



Judy Austin
Warrior Team Coach

Training Call

Our Personal Identity Statements

We had a training call on Exploring Identity, Friday Feb. 2nd. I'm loving the atmosphere each person in TWC brings to these calls. Our "Tribe" is so full of the Fruits of the Spirit that it's no wonder the calls are so much fun as well as we all learn so much. We always invite Papa, Jesus and Holy Spirit to join our calls and They are always very present in each of us.

How could it be anything but a wondrous time?

Each time I host an Identity call, it's fabulous and different because most of the participants bring one or two of their identity statements to share. Everyone brings something, including the newest members who are just beginning the process of discovering who they are created to be, even if they just bring their questions. It helps us all to think about how and what to answer. Holy Spirit shows up through people's sharing with each other.

Several keys to being able to write a succinct identity statement are:

- Gather together your prophetic words and words God and people have spoken over you, especially if you keep hearing similar things.
- Meditate, think deeply with God about what you already have in prophetic words, inheritance words, your own stories, journeys, testimonies, etc.
- Keep an identity journal where you write down thoughts, nuggets, words from God and people.
- Don't try to hurry the process; take your time and enjoy your process of discovering the treasures that are all a part of you.
- Look for themes in what you have gathered.
- God loves sharing in your process, ask Him and keep an ear open to what He has to say.

Here are some identity statements people shared on this call:

- 'I'm a long distance runner who goes the distance and helps connect others with Jesus.'
- 'I am a warrior advocate who is passionate on behalf of the successful fulfillment of the destinies of God's children.'
- 'I am God's pattern of His perfect patience for all those who would come to be set free.'
- 'I am a listener and learner, one yearning to discover the limitless possibilities from the Spirit.'

From the above identity statements, you can see some suggestions about how to write your statements, such as: "I am a ___ who ___" or "I am" then a key word after which two or three words to help remind you of what that word means for you. This will keep you on track with who you are especially if you're in a challenging situation. Enjoy your continuing relationship with God in who He created you to be. Enjoy discovering the treasures He has hidden for you along the way (Prov. 25:2). He enjoys walking with you!

- Judy



Neil Hardisty
Champions Team Coach

The Champions Team experience. Going ever Higher!

This journey has been about joy, and the celebration of our personal victories over life's challenges.

Testimony:

At the beginning of this training, the Lord showed me my own personal mountain to climb. Named "Self", it would be climbed by grace. I later saw a previously hidden (to me at least) part of my personality, which had begun to be used by the enemy. After a brief and unfruitful time spent trying to fix it myself, I leaned on my training. No longer seeing it as a challenge to my own holiness, I realized it was a challenge to the Lord's holiness instead. So I came before my Father in repentance.

The grace He gave me that day released and catapulted me onto the next ledge of my personal climb.

Up there, I found the joy of soaking in a new level of empowering grace. I couldn't wait to apply it to others too! As I did so, a heavy, false burden of trying to fix people lifted from me. Rest filled my heart, and the atmosphere around me became peaceful. I remembered Jesus had said, "Come to me all who are heavily laden and I will give you rest." And He did!

What we have learned:

- The Paradox. Although the speed of our climb varies, the speed of the change that the Lord promises the willing climber does not slow down.
- Weakness is not a barrier to victory, but an opportunity instead.
- If we show up, He shows up.

Quotes from my team.

- "Standing up against fear and doubt, living in the purest of love for others - this is what makes a Champion."
- "Climbing champion mountain has unlocked the door for me to dream again."
- "My Identity Statements pushes me into my God-written future and prevents me from settling for an earth-bound, flesh-driven journey."
- "Phenomenal! My understanding has experienced an overhaul."
- "I now understand that a champion is a path-forgoer for others to follow."
- "I no longer have to hide any part of myself. As I become more vulnerable and transparent, others will be drawn into what I have in Jesus."

Website Feature of the Month

WHAT IS YOUR STORY AND JOURNEY?



We are about to update our public website pages.

We would like to feature a page that lets you put language to your experience in TWC by finishing this statement:

The Warrior Class is:

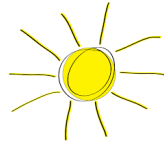
As you consider how to complete this sentence, think about your journey and story. What has been significant during your training, interactions, etc. that has helped shape your growth? How would you describe our community to another?

We know the rest of this sentence will be as unique to you as each of you are unique in the Kingdom. You may add another sentence if you cannot fit it into one! But, overall, we want to celebrate who we are together and hear from you.

We will post this request on Facebook on Friday, March 9th.

Please respond **by March 16th** on Facebook or email:

twc.specialty@gmail.com



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:

Rebecca Schwab

New Member Coach

About me ~

I am a lover of God, compassionately walking the journey

My name is Rebecca Schwab and I began this wonderful TWC journey in 2011 after being rocked at a Graham Cooke conference in Longmont, Colorado.

My first year in TWC was all about “Becoming the Beloved” and finding your identity in Christ. God knew exactly what I needed when I needed it. In great love, He brought me into an identity of being the Beloved. My heart had to know that I was thought of, that I am known and that I am worthy of His love. Without this mindset change, I couldn’t move forward, I had to understand the core of my identity in order to understand, and become the Beloved.

As I unpacked Psalm 139 along with Becoming the Beloved, the Lord gently massaged my heart in worthiness, confidence, strength and a new attitude! He is so good to bring us to that place of identity in our own space and time and He is so faithful to start with the foundation of who He made me to be. I am still unpacking Psalm 139 as He continues to show me my worthiness in Him as I grow in each level of training.

God’s Goodness...

His goodness is everlasting; it’s blessing and full of favor. His goodness is what He showed to Moses on the mountain and what Joshua sat in once they left the mountain, I want to experience more of His goodness. He shows His goodness to me through His grace when I am weak, His love when I need a big hug, and through a life hearing His glorious laughter when we walk together (Psalm 27:4). God is calling me into His goodness and grace by calling me out of complacency through His love, wisdom and power. By knowing I am loved, I walk in His wisdom, which strengthens me in His power. (Colossians 1:9).

My Identity Statements:

- I am a strong tower, planted deeply in the foundation of God’s goodness
- An atmosphere changer using peace as a weapon
- A mighty voice in the wilderness
- I am an image of the invisible God through a visible Christ
- A woman of prayer, strengthened by the joy of the Lord
- I am an overcomer because my place in Christ is high and holy
- I am a lover to no end
- A watcher on the watch tower, with God given responsibilities, while my eyes are fixed on Him
- A steward of the presence of God, hosting the Presence, lover of the Presence
- I release joyful intentionality to overcome passivity
- I walk in perfection, not by might, but by His grace which sustains me
- I am a vessel of obedience and excitement, living with God
- A shining star, set apart, but lighting the way
- I am a warrior, with a quiet strength