

The Battle of the Mind by Pastor Doug

A violent battle is raging around us twenty-four hours per day. In 1965, Donald Grey Barnhouse wrote a book about it called *The Invisible War*. It is the battle for your mind, and that battle is vicious. It is intense. It is unrelenting, and it is unfair because Satan never plays fair. And the reason why it is so intense is that your greatest asset is your mind.

I have seen the face of mental illness. I have seen what it is like when people are unable to hear God because their minds are broken and cannot seem to connect to God even when they want to connect to God. And I know whatever gets your mind gets you. So one of the most important things we need to learn and teach others is how to guard, strengthen, and renew our minds, because the battle for sin always starts in the mind.

The scriptures point out to us how to overcome strongholds in our life by taking every thought captive to obey Christ. Note what II Corinthians 10:3-5 says: *Though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh (in other words, we don't fight with armor, we don't fight with politics, we don't fight with money, we don't fight with all the humanistic ways). For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ.*

The apostle Paul says here that our job in this battle is to "destroy strongholds." You know what a stronghold is? It is a mental block. Paul is talking about pretensions, arguments set up against the knowledge of God. This is a mental battle. And he says, "Destroy these strongholds." A stronghold can be one of two things:

- It can be a worldview, such as materialism, hedonism, Darwinism, secularism, relativism, communism, atheism. All of the different *-isms* are mental strongholds that people set up against the knowledge of God.
- A stronghold can also be a personal attitude. Worry can be a stronghold. Seeking the approval of other people can be a stronghold. Anything that you make an idol in your life can be a stronghold — fear, guilt, resentment, insecurity. All of these things can be strongholds in your mind. And the Bible says that we are to tear them down.

During the month of October we will be looking at a number of battles we face in order to grow in Jesus. We're going to kick things off Sunday by looking at the Battle of our Mind. It's important to see the strongholds but also know how to overcome the battle. I hope you can join us for this vital series entitled "I Declare War."

Worship Schedule

Sundays • 9:30 & 11:00 am

Medina Community Church exists to help people begin and grow in their relationship with God. Our relaxed, contemporary style provides an enjoyable atmosphere where you can investigate the claims of Christ, deepen your faith and meet some great friends along the way.

October 3—

I Declare War . . .
The Battle of the Mind

October 10 —

I Declare War . . .
Words Matter

October 17 —

I Declare War . . .
Stronger Together

October 24 —

Finding Your Identity—Don Winans

October 31 — Communion Sunday

Ghostbusters
(What the Bible says about ghosts)





MEDINA COMMUNITY CHURCH

fall fest

October 9, 2021 • 5-9:00 pm

Please join us for a Fall gathering at the Davis house. Water, lemonade, plastic ware, plates and a smoked brisket will be provided. Please come and bring a dish to share. Weather permitting, we'll have a hayride and bonfire.

2351 Abbeyville Road • Valley City, OH 44280

ADULT MINISTRY



The **Women's Bible study** meets on Thursday evenings (7:00 pm) at MCC. The current study is *Deborah, Becoming a Woman of Influence*. Please let Kathy Summers [(330)461-1081 or kathy@beeculture.com] know if you have any questions.

The **Men's Bible study** meets on Thursday evenings (7:00 pm) at MCC. They are currently looking at the Red Sea Miracle, a Right Now Media study. Please contact Dave Arron with any questions. You can reach him at (330) 242-4231 or darron@neo.rr.com.

MCC DISCOVERY CLASS

Our next MCC orientation class is coming up in October. We'll meet for the first class on Monday, October 11 at 7:00 pm. Then we'll look at our schedules and determine the next class dates. There will be a total of three sessions. If you want to know more about MCC, our leadership style, membership, areas to serve, and philosophy of ministry, we would encourage you to attend these classes. You'll feel more connected with the Lord and your church family. Please signup at church or text Pastor Doug at (330) 635-9655.



CONGRATULATIONS GRACE!!



Grace Zay was recently honored by the Medina County Arts Council for her contribution to the Arts in Medina. Grace was instrumental in helping to launch the Art in the Park festival that is such a wonderful day each summer. Grace is a talented artist and you will find many of her paintings around town. Grace also was involved in mentoring young aspiring artists and raising funds for scholarships for the arts. Be sure to congratulate one of our dear members when you see her at church. We love you Grace!



YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Jr. and Sr. High Sunday school classes will resume Sunday, October 3 during the second service (11:00 am). Bev Davidson will be waiting to greet you with donuts in the first classroom.

COMMUNITY MEAL



We are pleased to announce that MCC will be hosting another drive-thru Community Night meal on **Saturday, October 16** from 6-7 pm for those in need. Meals will be handed out in a drive thru lane. Volunteers will help guide guests to the meal pickup area. (All guests will be asked to remain in their vehicles.) Meals are first come, first serve until the food runs out. Please note that meals are provided free of charge. Donations are accepted to help support this ministry.

If you do not drive, and would like a meal delivered to you, please call the church office at (330)-723-5155. Leave your name, address, phone number, and number of meals wanted. ***Deliveries are made within 3 miles of the church the church at this time.***

Please contact Emily Winans to volunteer for this outreach: Tel: (240) 405-4003 or Email: winanse@gmail.com

Upcoming Community Meals: Saturday, November 20

YOUTH GROUPS

Wednesdays 6:15-7:30 pm
KIDS BLAST
ELEMENTARY

Kids Blast is MCC's fun, high-energy Bible club for 4-year olds through 5th grade. Kids will enjoy a time of worship, games, and a Bible lesson each week. Dinner will be provided. Sign up today!

<u>Session 1</u>	<u>Session 2</u>	<u>Session 3</u>	<u>Session 4</u>
September 8,15,22,29	November 3,10,17	January 12,19,26	March 2,9,16,23,30
October 6,13,20	December 1,8,15	February 2,9,16	April 6



Sundays • 5:00-6:30 pm

Doug Davidson—Sr. Pastor • Donna Spitzer—Director of Christian Education
Kristen Green—Intern • Justin Boughter—Intern

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