## WINNING THE WAR IN YOUR MIND—3 DEFEAT YOUR NEGATIVE THOUGHTS

• The life you have is often a reflection of the thoughts you think.

For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. <sup>4</sup>The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have <u>divine power</u> to <u>demolish strongholds</u>. <sup>5</sup>We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and <u>we take captive every thought</u> to <u>make it obedient to Christ</u>. 2 Corinthians 10:3-5 NIV

- cognitive bias: mistake in reasoning based on personal experiences or preferences
- reframing: creating a different way of looking at a situation or relationship by changing its meaning
- You can't control what happens to you.
- But you can control how you frame it.

Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me really sucks. As a result of the hell I've been through, I'm quitting LifeGroup and never going back to church. Philippians 1:12-13 NWV

Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me <u>has actually served to advance the gospel</u>. <sup>13</sup>As a result, it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard and

to everyone else that <u>I am in chains for Christ</u>. Philippians 1:12-13 NIV

And <u>because of my chains</u>, most of the brothers and sisters have become confident in the Lord and <u>dare all the more to proclaim the gospel without fear</u>. Philippians 1:14 NIV

## REFRAMING YOUR STORY AND RELATIONSHIPS

- 1. Thank God for what didn't happen.
- 2. Practice pre-framing.
- 3. Look for God's goodness.

## TALK IT OVER

Would you say you tend to have a more positive mindset or a negative one? How could you start training your mind to look for God in every situation?

Read Philippians 1:12-14. What are some ways you could start reframing your circumstances?

Everyone has a personal struggle they're facing. What's yours? How can you look for God in it?

Start the *Winning the War in Your Mind* Bible Plan using Plans With Friends: <a href="www.go2.lc/war">www.go2.lc/war</a>