

MANIFESTING YOUR SPIRIT

GRAHAM COOKE

BOOK 2 THE WAY OF THE WARRIOR SERIES



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INVOCATION

Father, thank you for the life-giving water that resides in each of us. You are a well and a fountain. We declare that we do not thirst except for a deeper walk with You.

Dig out that inner well, O Lord, so that hundreds may drink from what you pour out in us. Teach us to be resilient, passionate, and alive!

Infuse us with your exuberance till we are massively encouraged—constantly. Develop the internal place of our heart so that it becomes Your living space.

Empower us, great God, to see life exactly as You do—to view everything and everyone through the lens of Jesus. Teach us to think with the mind of Christ so that our thoughts are an extension of our worship.

As You manifest Your Spirit to us, may the privilege of our encounters with You release the hearts of many to come further on and further in.

For Jesus' sake.

Amen.

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WAKING UP YOUR INNER MAN

T*here is an activation I like to do in certain events* that really develops the muscles of faith by rejoicing. Whenever we are developing people for life in the spirit or preparing them for battle, confidence and boldness must always be part of the training.

Note: Read this activation through twice before you do it. Do it with all the strength and passion you can generate.

I invite them to come to the front of the room and line up, shoulder to shoulder, in rows, as an army in formation would stand. I ask them to close their eyes and imagine that they are on a battlefield, and then I lead them through the following meditation:

Imagine that you are on a battlefield. Your army is small, especially in the face of the massive force that opposes you. You're outnumbered. You're outgunned. They're bigger than you in both number and physical size. A thought flashes across your mind: you're going to die. With everything stacked

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against you, you realize your only hope of survival is to run away. But you are a warrior: retreat is not an option.

In your heart, you decide you will fight as best you can. If you're going down, you're taking as many of them down with you as possible. You feel your face turn to flint as you prepare yourself. The resolve inside of you turns your blood cold. You push any fear out of your body: you don't need it; you don't want it. The butterflies in your stomach are now frozen in the concrete of your resolve. You turn your gaze onto the tallest, meanest-looking enemy you can see. That's the one you're going to kill first.

Now look eighteen inches above that enemy soldier. Do you see who's there? It's Jesus, grinning and waving at you. When you make eye contact with Him, He winks. The enemy has no clue that He's there — it's a private joke between Him and you. The Lord flips you a thumbs-up. "He's really going to enjoy this," you think to yourself. In your spirit, your resolve is joined by boldness and faith. Everything is different now because the King is here. This is going to be a good fight, because you're going to overcome all odds and win.

In your inner being, with your mouth closed, look at Jesus and shout. Show it on your face, wave your hands if you wish, but stay quiet. Inside of you, shout His name. Praise Him! Every fiber of your being is shouting to Him. Continue to praise and rejoice until every part of you is shouting and cheering on the inside. Let every part of your own caution, negativity, and fear dissolve in the face of His Majesty!

Now look again at the enemy army. See how confused they look? Their weak, timid, outnumbered enemy has been infused with confidence. They're now the ones who are worried. What are you up to?

When you looked at Jesus' face, you proclaimed His goodness. Now, looking at the enemy, I want you to declare what Jesus will do to them. They're toast. It's over. The name of Jesus will be victorious no matter what they try. The King is here!

Begin shouting towards the enemy using your inner voice. (*Continue to keep your mouth closed.*) Shout out his demise. He is powerless! Jesus has defeated him! The battle is the Lord's; the victory is ours! The Cross has overthrown his power to rule. He is a conquered enemy.

The Lord has vanquished him. We are overcomers by the Word of the Lord and the blood of His testimony.

Shout! Shout! Shout out his defeat, until every part of you is on fire with passion for the battle. You cannot lose because Jesus has already conquered.

Now, look at the enemy. See the fear in their eyes. See their confusion, their questioning when they look at you. You seem bigger to them, stronger, bolder, more powerful. When they look at you they are staring defeat in the face.

How does that feel to you? What happened on the inside of you? If you really participated in this exercise fully, something has changed. What is it? What woke up on the inside of you? Journal your thoughts and feelings.