

# CERTAIN VICTORY!

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“I have been acting like a victim and have not been trusting God. That’s not what He wants.”

The young woman, who I will call Kim, spoke these words softly as we began our second mediation session. Our first meeting had been contentious and difficult, especially for Kim. She felt deeply hurt and personally wronged by others in the room and had been aggressive in her pursuit of justice and vindication. As we opened our second meeting, we were uncertain where things would go. We were hoping for a good outcome. Kim’s words revealed that God was working to accomplish more just reconciliation and resolution of the conflict at hand. God was changing her heart and her life!

We see conflicts and disputes as opportunities for reconciliation, for restoration and for resolution. As we pursue these worthy objectives, we focus on the circumstances surrounding the conflicts and disputes we face. God’s goals are even greater and grander. While He certainly wants conflict reconciled and disputes resolved, His greater desire is that His children experience freedom, joy and meaning in life regardless of the outcome. In the midst of conflict, it is natural to feel overwhelmed and a victim of the circumstances. God, however, wants us to live like victors, not a victims, to be overcomers, not overwhelmed.

God is all we need to live victorious lives. His promises in Romans 8:1, 31, 37 and 39 are for all who know Him through Jesus.

*There is now no condemnation for those who are Christ Jesus.*

*If God is for us, who can be against us?*

*In all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.*

*Neither height nor depth or anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the Love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Whether we live as victims or as victors is a matter of personal choice. Victims live in fear. Victors walk by faith. Victors believe that God is in control and that they can face and overcome anything in Him. Faith is always followed by the freedom and joy that God intends for all of His children, regardless of their circumstances.

Kim went on to genuinely accept responsibility for her part in the conflict. She expressed her sincere commitment to trust God and to follow Him wherever He might lead. At the end of the day, the conflict in which Kim was involved was resolved. Kim, however, was victorious the moment she chose to walk by faith. In conflict, victory is always within reach. That victory has nothing to do with the outcome. Kim got it. What about you?