

THE OBJECTIVE

I. Introduction To The Study

A. Point one:

1. Use of illustration in scripture
 - a. Uses something familiar to relate key truths
 - b. Often demands further study of scripture to fully understand the concept
 - c. Example: A Christian is a child of God
 - (1) Because we all were children of someone we understand the basic concept
 - (2) Because the world is fallen we must look to the Word of God for the ideal behind the pictures
2. Warfare is a picture of our relationship to the powers of darkness
 - a. We can learn a great deal from the study of natural warfare
 - b. We must look at the scripture to determine what part applies to us

B. Point two:

1. We must recognize that the work the Lord gave us to do involves both building and fighting
 - a. Note Nehemiah: every worker had a sword and a trowel

2. Our ministry *to people* is **building** them up

3. Our ministry with respect to the **powers of darkness** is **conflict**

II. A Clearly Defined Objective

- A. Success in both building and fighting demands that we have a clearly defined objective
 1. No other principle of activity can make up for the lack of clarity at this point

B. In war the supreme commander establishes this objective

1. In an army the objective is passed down through a chain of commands
 - a. At each level it is subdivided until finally it comes down to a particular job for every individual soldier

C. In the Church the Lord establishes the objective

1. Great Commission - Matt. 28:18-20

2. Ephesians 4:11-13

C. Personal Objective

1. Great Commission is overwhelming
 - a. Could lead to panic

 - b. Could lead to discouragement

 - c. Could lead to withdrawl

2. Jesus Christ is the head of the church
 - a. Every group and individual should be able to concisely state their part in the larger objective

 - b. EI School of Biblical Training has a purpose statement
 - (1) Each member of the staff has a definite role to play in that purpose

 - (2) Director establishes goals and assigns duties

 - c. Where is your part in the work of Jesus Christ
 - (1) We are in this together

 - (2) No person is left out as unimportant