

8/13/17 Handout – Parenting in the Trenches of Spiritual War, Part 2

Rosaria Butterfield: ‘My husband and I adopted all four of our children. Daily I homeschool one child with right-brained learning strengths and another with left-brain learning strengths. This means that by the end of the school day, I have no brain. God gave us two children when they were infants and two when they were 15 and 16 years old...Liberals think I’m just another social justice advocate...Darwinian evolutionists think working with all the bureaucracies to adopt children renders me nothing more than a glorified nanny to a group of kids doomed by biology and uncorrectable by environment. And at least one advocate of the Christian homeschool movement cautioned us against adopting older teens by declaring: “If you can’t spank them and can’t homeschool them, you can’t lead them to Jesus!” Let’s face it. There’s simply no “Mom’s Club” for me...Adoption is neither social justice nor Christian charity. Adoption is a Christian calling that puts spiritual warfare in full throttle...’ (Gospel Coalition blog, 7/17/2015)

See also article by Russell Moore, *Adoption and Spiritual Warfare* (www.crossway.org 7/15/15)
Read also Brian Borgman, “The Grit of Adoption: Warfare,” in *After They Are Yours*, p. 54-57.

Notes from “Adoption is War,” Message by Josh Mack (Together for Adoption conference)

The helmet of salvation, taking thoughts captive, and countering lies Satan tempts us to believe

1st lie: I’m overwhelmed and don’t have what it takes to be an adoptive parent

The truth:

2nd lie: I won’t make it (I’m too big a mess, I’m too weak, and/or this isn’t what I signed up for)

The truth:

3rd lie: I am alone in this battle, on my own (or church can’t understand or help, so I won’t ask)

The truth:

4th lie: Some kids from hard places can’t change (it’s all genetics, nothing works, it’s hopeless)

The truth:

5th lie: I can’t _____ in the present because of the past (sin, shame, mistakes, regret, etc.)

The truth:

6th lie: I’m too insecure or uncertain about the future (or I’ve tried everything and I’ve lost hope)

The truth:

7th lie: I don’t feel love (or I fear or doubt love of God or love from God) so it can’t be so

The truth: