

## Combating Spiritual Passivity

What does it mean to be “spiritually aggressive”?

A “spiritually aggressive” Christian is one who:

- really believes what God says and is determined to obey Him
- takes his spiritual life/development seriously
- hungers for the truth of God’s Word
- has a clearly defined goal of getting to know God and to follow His leadership
- realizes he is in a battle with God’s enemies
- knows how to resist and fight against that enemy

Why is spiritual aggressiveness important?

First of all because we are in a spiritual battle and without being aggressive, it’s easy to become a casualty.

- The Bible is really clear about the fact that we are in a spiritual battle; It’s a battle between believing God’s truth or the enemy’s lies.
- All three of our enemies--the world, the flesh and Satan--have lined themselves up to oppose us as we try to know God and to live according to God’s truth.
- The Bible keeps talking about having a renewed mind because the mind is where the action is. It’s the battlefield.

Secondly, being aggressive spiritually is important because that is how God defines the normal Christian life.

- Being passive spiritually, which is the exact opposite of spiritual aggressiveness, is not really an option if we want to know God and to move towards maturity as a Christian. We need to learn how to aggressively grab onto the truth and live our lives based on that truth.

Am I supposed to be “spiritually aggressive”?

- The Bible uses active words such as: excel still more/resist/be on the alert/be a living sacrifice/whole-hearted/soldier in active service/and others.
- Christ presented a clear picture of the battle we are in.
- We are commanded to draw near to God and to resist the devil; in order to do so, we have to be involved, active and aggressive.