

# Spiritual Warfare

**Adversaries**  
Message 1  
Perry Duggar  
September 18, 2022

## ► Outline

*Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil...*

**1 Peter 5:8a (NLT)**

### A. Introduction

**(Ephesians 2:1-3; 1 Peter 5:8)**

### B. Adversaries of our faith: the \_\_\_\_\_,

the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_.

**(Matthew 4:1-2; Mark 1:12-13; Luke 4:1-2;  
Hebrews 4:15)**

#### 1. The world: \_\_\_\_\_ temptation to sin.

**(Matthew 4:5-7; Luke 4:9-12; Romans 12:2;  
James 4:4,8-10; 1 John 2:15-17)**

#### 2. The flesh: \_\_\_\_\_ temptation to sin.

**(Matthew 4:3-4; Luke 4:3-4; Romans 7:18-25;  
Galatians 5:16-21; Ephesians 4:22-24)**

#### 3. The devil: \_\_\_\_\_ temptation to sin.

**(Matthew 4:8-10; Luke 4:5-8,13; 2 Corinthians 2:11; James  
4:7; 1 Peter 5:8)**

**Answers:** B. world, flesh, devil 1. external 2. internal 3. supernatural

**Resource Information:** Scripture quotations marked (NLT) are taken from the *Holy Bible*, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, a Division of Tyndale House Ministries, Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. All rights reserved. C/R refers to a 'cross reference.' Today's outline and discussion guide are available through the Brookwood Church app.

## ► Discussion Guide

Use this guide by yourself or with friends to pursue a deeper relationship with Jesus. To connect with others, visit [brookwoodchurch.org/adults](http://brookwoodchurch.org/adults).

### Conversation Starter

Describe a time your faith was tested. How has this shaped you?

### Begin your study with prayer

Pause for a few minutes to quiet your heart and mind. Then ask God for insight and direction as you study and reflect on this week's lesson.

### Bible Study and Group Discussion

#### Read Matthew 3:13-4:10.

1. The same Spirit that descended on Jesus at His baptism (3:16) also led Him into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil (4:1). Why would the Spirit lead Jesus to be tempted?
2. What is temptation? How would you explain it simply to a child or someone who isn't a Christian?
3. What temptations did Jesus face? When have you faced similar temptations?
4. How did Jesus defend Himself against the schemes of the devil? Have you ever used these weapons? Describe.
5. How might it be dangerous to either over-believe or under-believe the existence of the devil?
6. Are there times or situations in your life in which you are more susceptible or vulnerable to temptation than normal? Explain.
7. How does being a follower of Christ help you have victory against external, internal and supernatural adversaries?

8. The devil attacked Jesus' identity and purpose (*if You are the Son of God...*). In what ways have your identity and purpose been attacked? How does remembering your true identity keep you faithful?
9. Everyone faces battles against the world, the flesh and the devil (see Ephesians 2:1-3). What are ways we can help each other stand strong?
10. What truth from this week's lesson is most important for you? What impact will this have on your life?

### Spiritual Practice

*A spiritual practice is something we can do to help us live in and enjoy God's grace. We hope these practices become a regular part of your life so that walking and talking with God is the most natural thing you do.*

One way to strengthen inner resolve is to practice the spiritual discipline of fasting. Fasting can be defined as *going without or abstaining from something to which you're most attached for the purpose of cultivating a greater dependence on God.*

What are you most attached to other than God? This might be food, social media, shopping, work, sports, Netflix, needing to control conversations – anything that pulls you away from an ongoing connection to God. Identify one thing you cling to most when you feel empty or restless. Refrain from that this week, allowing space to listen to the voice of Jesus.

### Memory Verse

*Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour.* **1 Peter 5:8 (NLT)**

### Daily Reading

- |                        |                          |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Day 1: 1 John 2:15-17  | Day 4: Galatians 5:16-21 |
| Day 2: Psalm 139:23-24 | Day 5: Ephesians 4:22-24 |
| Day 3: James 4:8-10    |                          |

### Prepare for Next Sunday

Next Sunday, September 25, we'll continue the series *Spiritual Warfare*. To prepare, read Ephesians 6:10-18.



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