

Small Group/Sermon Notes based on The War: Part 2

Remember, small groups are primarily for growing closer relationships with other believers. We can learn wonderful things in this environment but keep relationships first.

- Make sure everyone knows each other's names. Have everyone share a little about themselves and how life is going right now.
- **The War: Part 2 "The Devil's Schemes and Lies We Believe"**
- To win on both fronts we must know our enemy.
 - It is the same enemy on both fronts: The Devil and his forces.
 - He is the one who comes to steal, kill, and destroy on BOTH fronts.
- The Devil is cruel and evil. We must defend ourselves.
 - **1 Peter 5:8-9** (roaring lion)
- Discuss the following six case studies on the Devil's schemes. Can you think of examples of these?
- Case Study 1: The Temptation of Jesus.
 - After Jesus was baptized by John we get **Matthew 4:1**.
 - Three recorded temptations:
 - **Matthew 4:3-4**. Simple appeal to a physical need.
 - **Matthew 4:5-7**. Using Scripture to appeal to pride.
 - **Matthew 4:8-10**. Appeal to possessions/power.
 - First Scheme: temptation to sin. Truth: **James 1:13-15**.
- Case Study 2: Eve. **Genesis 3:1-4**.
 - Jesus describes Satan as the father of lies.
 - Second Scheme: deceive (fool) us into straying from God.
- Case Study 3: Job. **Job 1:8-12**.
 - The devil did much harm to Job.
 - Notice the deception in v11. Even Satan was blaming God for what he was about to do!!
 - Third Scheme: Satan hurts you to get you mad at God. Truth: **John 10:10**.
- Case Study 4: Legion. **Mark 5:1-5**.
 - This guy was in bad shape, horribly tormented.
 - Jesus cast the demons out into pigs and they ALL immediately killed themselves.
 - Fourth Scheme: Satan tortures your spirit to get you to hurt yourself.
- Case Study 5: Peter's fear. **Luke 22:31-34**
 - Peter was ready to die. He cut off that guy's ear!!
 - But Jesus told him to put his sword away.
 - After that he was confused and fear gripped him.
 - Fifth Scheme: Satan plays on your fears to shake your faith in God. Truth: **John 16:33**
- Case Study 6: Judas' betrayal. **Matthew 26:6-16; Luke 22:3-4**
 - Case Studies 5 and 6 are "foothold" cases. (**Ephesians 4:26-27**)
 - This case involved indignant jealousy and greed. Judas liked the money and would "help himself."
 - Sixth Scheme: Satan plays on jealousy or feeling of indignation to get Christians to take out their "spoiled" leaders.
 - We haven't touched on lies that we believe yet. As we pray I will read a list I got from some local pastors. Speak out your own as well.
- Let soak up **John 3:16** and **James 4:7** to cleanse the palate here!!
 - What lies do people believe? Think through some examples you come up with.
- Pray for each other before you finish up!