



Shepherd's Path

A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

Pass The Promise Series, Lesson 23

Lesson Title: Spiritual Warfare – Take a Stand!

Take Home Point: I belong to Jesus. Satan, take a hike!

Warm-Up:

Suppose you are a member of a military unit responsible to maintain communications between headquarters and the soldiers on the front line. You have been given all the best equipment, plus the training manuals and access to experienced personnel. You know the job is critical to the success of the mission. However, your time is taken with other activities that you believe are more important, so you decide not to read the manuals or learn from the experts or train on using the equipment. When it's time for battle, will you be able to fight? Will you be ready to win?

Read: 1 Peter 5:8; Luke 10:18-19

Observation (What happened?):

According to Luke 10:19, what did Jesus give us the authority to overcome?

According to 1 Peter 5:8, what are we to do to be prepared?

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

Why do you think Satan wants to “devour” us? What are some of the consequences?

What ways can we exercise the power of Jesus to overcome temptations?

Insight:

In Ephesians 6:10-17, Paul writes about the spiritual war we are in and the armor of God available to us to fight and win. He tells us that we should “put on all the armor that God supplies. In this way you can take a stand against the devil’s strategies.” We are to be armed with truth, with the good news of peace, with God’s righteousness, with faith, salvation, and the Word of God. Notice that none of these are of our own making. They are all from God, who is the source of our power to resist and overcome. And then Paul says to pray in every situation. Prayer puts us in direct contact with the power of God and energizes our weapons. Remember Jesus in the wilderness when he was tempted? He was ready with the truth of God’s Word to resist Satan and overcome temptation. Read Matthew 4:1-11 and Luke 4:1-13 to see how our Saviour showed us how to fight and win.

Application (What does it mean to me?):

What are some situations this past week in which Satan tried to tempt you to sin? How can recognizing these times of temptations help you in the future?

Pray for the children in your small group this week to understand that Satan wants to trick them into doing something wrong, but they can call on Jesus to resist him.