

“CONTENDING FOR THE VISION”

Pastor Fritz Stranz

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FIRST STEP OF FAITH - VISION

1. **PICTURE** it.
2. **PURSUE** it.
3. **POSSESS** it.

Heb 11:8 [ESV] - *“By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called”*

“DEALING WITH THE DEVIL”

Nehemiah 4:4 [NKJV] - *“Hear, O our God, for we are despised; turn their reproach on their own heads”*

Paul: 1 Cor 16:9 [NKJV] - *“For a great and effective door has opened to me, and there are many adversaries.”*

CONTENDING FOR THE VISION

- The Name of Jesus
- The Word of God
- Prayer

Luke 10:17 [NKJV] - *Then the seventy returned with joy, saying, “Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name.”*

BE AWARE OF THE ENEMY *[but not impressed]*

- *“in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.”*
2 Corinthians 2:11 [NIV]
- *“The god of this age has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ”* **2 Corinthians 4:4 [NIV]**
- *“You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father’s desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there*

is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.” **John 8:44 [NIV]**

- *“But I am afraid that as the serpent deceived Eve by his cunning, your thoughts will be led astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ.”* **2 Corinthians 11:3 [ESV]**

8 WAYS TO “DEAL WITH THE DEVIL”

1. Resist Satan by Submitting to God.

“Submit yourselves to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.” **James 4:7 [NKJV]**

2. Protect Yourself with the Sword of the Spirit and the Armor of God.

“A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on all of God’s armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.” **Ephesians 6:10-12 [NLT]**

3. Fight the Enemy’s Temptations through the Power of Prayer.

“Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven.”

Matthew 18:18-19 [NIV]

4. Resist him by being Self-Controlled and Alert.

“Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith.” **1 Peter 5:8-9 [NIV]**

“In all these things, we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.”

Romans 8:37 [NIV]

5. Fight Back with the Spirit of God.

“Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,” says the Lord of hosts.”

Zechariah 4:6 [NKJV]

“In all these things, we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.”

Romans 8:37 [NIV]

6. Know You Are a Conqueror Through the Blood Of Jesus, His Authority, And the Word of Our Testimony.

"And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death." **Revelation 12:11 [ESV]**

"But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."
1 Corinthians 15:57 [ESV]

7. Make the Enemy Flee through the Power of Praise.

"As they began to sing and praise, the Lord set ambushes against the men of Ammon and Moab and Mount Seir who were invading Judah, and they were defeated."

2 Chronicles 20:22 [NIV]

"About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken. And immediately all the doors were opened, and everyone's bonds were unfastened." **Acts 16:25-26 [ESV]**

8. Trust God's Power and Protection.

"He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust. Surely he will save you from the fowler's snare and from the deadly pestilence. He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart..." **Psalms 91:1-4 [NIV]**

"For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways."

Psalms 91:11 [NIV/ESV]