Exposing Enemy Tactics

The definition of tactics is "an action or strategy carefully planned to achieve a specific end". 1 Peter 5:8 (NLT) Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour.

Peter writes "Watch out"...."your great enemy"....."prowls around looking"....."for someone to devour".....

In John 10:10 Jesus describes the main goal of satan's tactics "The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy."

The good news is that Jesus <u>defeated</u> and <u>disarmed satan</u> by <u>His death</u> on the cross and resurrection.

One of the tactics he uses to do this, is by attacking the conscience.

In our time together, we will be looking at how we can defend against satans attack on our conscience, by dismantling three specific lies that he uses with this tactic.

- You're STILL GUILTY
- You're NOT FORGIVEN
- You're TOO FAR GONE

You're STILL GUILTY

All of us have experienced that annoying realization, after giving into temptation....that you weren't as helpless as you thought you were.

• **Sometimes temptation** can feel so intense that it can make you feel like you're drowning and desperately grasping for air.

God has given us all that we need to be victorious over the pressure of temptation and sin, through His word, the Holy Spirit, and community.

• **Meaning that the believer,** is never helpless when experiencing temptation.

But what do you do when you know you've wronged God and feel guilty because of your sin? *Ephesians 1:7* In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace.

But guilt becomes a bad thing whenever satan gets involved.

The truth is that because of what Jesus has done we are no longer guilty but declared righteous. 2 Corinthians 5:21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Zechariah 3:2, And the Lord said to Satan "The Lord rebuke you, Satan! The Lord who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you...!

Satan also wants to believe the lie that...

You're NOT FORGIVEN

One of the problems we experience, after we sin, is that satan plants the thought in our heads that God's grace for us is limited.

Romans 5:20 Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more.

Satan is so tricky here....because he knows that distance from God puts the believer in danger of entering a cycle of sin and shame.

Psalm 32:3-5 — David said - When I kept silent, my bones grew old Through my groaning all the day long. For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; My vitality was turned into the drought of summer, I

acknowledged my sin to You, And my iniquity I have not hidden.....I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," <u>And You forgave the iniquity of my sin</u>. Selah.

Doing this cleanses our conscience from guilt and shame *Hebrews* **10:22** *let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.*

Satan also wants us to believe the lie that...

You're TOO FAR GONE

One of satans most effective tactics is getting people to believe that God is done with them after they sin.

We have to remember that no matter how great our sin is, or how many times we've done it....we are never too far gone for the grace of God.