

Flirting With Disaster

The Battle Is Real ~ Pastor Dre

TALK IT OVER

Breaking The Ice. Spiritual warfare is real. It is defined in the Bible as demons, dark forces of evil working against us to prevent us from doing God's will. With beheadings, sex trafficking, mass shootings and serial killers there is no doubt that evil is present in the world. Most people in the western world would agree that evil exist in the world, but most in our culture have a difficult time to saying that evil is present in our own life. **Why?**

What The Enemies Do:

- They blind the minds of believers
- They steal God's word from you
- They set traps to ensnare you
- They fight to stop you
- They plan to destroy you

Key Scriptures:

*Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. **Ephesians 6:10-12***

Additional Scripture:

*For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. **2 Corinthians 10:3-4***

Verses For Further Study:

2 Kings 6:15-18; Daniel 10: 12-14; Matthew 4:1-11, 13:19-20; John 10:10; 2 Corinthians 4:4,10:3-4; Ephesians 4:26-27; Col 2:15; 2 Timothy 2:26; 1 Thessalonians 2:18, 3:5; Hebrews 2:14; James 4:7; 1 Peter 5:8-9; 1 John 3:8, 4:4

Start Talking.

- What is one thing that stood out to you from this week's message?
- Share about a time in your life where you felt that there was a force working against you?
- How does it make you feel knowing that there is an unseen battle of darkness happening in your life?

Start Thinking.

- Knowing how crafty Satan can be, in what ways may Satan be distracting you, irritating you or tempting you?
- Read Ephesians 4:17-24, 5:1-5. In what ways were the Ephesians instructed to not live as Gentiles? (4:17-19) How does the Gentile (worldly) mindset affect a person's choices and behavior? What is the first step to changing an old pattern of behavior? (4:23) What is the nature of our new self? (4:24)
- How would believing this about yourself motivate you to live a life of moral excellence? (5:1-3)

Start Sharing.

- Read 2 Kings 6:15-18. Describe a time when you realized God was doing something, spiritually, that you couldn't see with your natural eyes (Maybe God was warning you, or speaking to you, or prompting you to do something).
- How will you better arm yourself with God's word this week?
- How can we pray for you?

Start Doing.

- Think back over your life and recognize the many ways the devil has tried to destroy you (not just physically, but spiritually). Then, ask the Lord to show you the many ways He has protected you and brought you where you are today. Ask Him to give you discernment concerning any schemes, temptations or deceptions that you are currently encountering. Pray and take the appropriate steps to resist the enemy (see 2 Corinthians 10:3-5; James 4:7; 1 Peter 5:6-10)
- Each morning this week, prepare for battle by praying through Ephesians 6:11-18. Stay alert, throughout the day, to the spiritual battle that is being waged all around you. Ask the Lord to give you the discernment necessary to pray according to His will. Write out some key verses on which to meditate, throughout the day.

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