

Part 3: Don't Be Deceived!

Satan, who is the god of this world, has blinded the minds of those who don't believe. They are unable to see the glorious light of the Good News. They don't understand this message about the glory of Christ, who is the exact likeness of God. - 2 Corinthians 4:4 NLT

3 Categories Of Deception That Satan Uses To Keep People Blinded To The Truth:

1. Vanity

Neighbors lie to each other, speaking with flattering lips and deceitful hearts. - Psalm 12:2 NLT

"They speak vanity every one with his neighbour" - KJV

Vanity - empty, frothy; light and entertaining but of little substance.

"Now we never got around to spiritual matters, But we sure made time for our mindless chatter." - *In the Air, DC Talk*

2. Flattery

Neighbors lie to each other, speaking with <u>flattering lips</u> and deceitful hearts. - Psalm 12:2 NLT

Literally, "lips of smoothness"; smooth talker

"It's saying only what other people want to hear, and hearing only what you want other people to say." - Pastor Colin Smith

Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord of your life. And if someone asks about your hope as a believer, always be ready to explain it. 16 But do this in a gentle and respectful way. - 1 Peter 3:15-16 NLT

3. Blasphemy

...their boastful tongues. 4 They say, "We will lie to our hearts' content. Our lips are our own—who can stop us?" - Psalm 12:3-4 NLT

"Who have said, With our tongue will we prevail; our lips are our own: who is lord over us?" - KJV

"we will speak what we please; Who can, or has any right to control us; or to call us to an account?" - Benson's Commentary

If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it. -Matthew 16:25 NLT

TALK IT OVER

- Read Psalm 12:1-4. How does Satan use vanity, flattery, and blasphemy to keep the truth hidden from people?
 - What will you do so that you are ready to gently and respectfully share your faith?
- Is there anyone in your life who needs to be introduced to Jesus? What could you do to help them learn the truth about God?

Suggested Reading Plan: Authentic Witnessing in Today's World

Announcements:

- Sunday Service @ 10 AM. Nursery for children up to age 4 on weeks 2,3 & 4; KidZone for ages 5-11. *Please Note:* We want families to experience the "At The Movies" series together, so there will be NO KidZone August 20-September 3. We invite kids to stay with their families in "big church."
- Girl's Ministry for grades K-6 will resume September 27 @ 5:30 PM!
- Finish Line Youth for ages 12-12th grade will resume on September 13 @ 7 PM!
- Football Sunday September 10! Wear your favorite football team's gear, invite a friend to church, and join us for a *barbecue immediately following the service at Sojourner Truth/Ulster Landing Park* (Sign-up in the welcome center to bring something to share).
- Women's Bible Study Abide: A Study of 1,2, & 3 John, Thursdays from 6:30-8 PM beginning September 21. Location TBA, cost \$28 (includes study guide). Please register by September 11 at <u>https://newlife-saugerties.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1886040</u>

For more information, visit <u>newlife-saugerties.org</u> and download our mobile app!



