

Nov. 17, 2019

Screwtape Letters Week 3

Screwtape's Advice for Ruining Relationships

Scriptures of the reality of Spiritual Warfare:

Genesis 3:1 Matthew 4:1-11 Ephesians 6:13,16
1 Peter 5:8,9 Revelation 12:9 Revelation 20:2

Relationships are targeted because they are:

1. Ways to demonstrate and receive love.
2. The context for encouragement, comfort, hope and healing.
3. The places where we experience growth.
4. The environments where we fulfill God's purpose (find meaning and exercise our individual gifts).
5. The way we procreate.
6. Expressions of the presence of Christ on earth.

General methods of the enemy:

Temptation: 1 Thessalonians 3:5 NIV Mark 1:13 NLT
Lies: John 8:44 (NIV)
Torment: 1 Samuel 16:14 NLT 2 Cor. 12:7 NLT
Accusation: Revelation 12 :10 NIV
Deception: 2 Cor. 11 :14 NLT (angel of light)
Obsessions: Holds us captive 2 Timothy 2:26 (NIV)

Specific tactics and schemes:

Withholding knowledge
Using knowledge in appropriately or without love
Distorts God's view of marriage
Influences our thought life
Capitalizes on our feelings
Uses criticism
Capitalizes on our personality weaknesses
Entices our inappropriate passions
Gets us to compare ourselves with others
Gets us to have unrealistic expectations

Uses jealousy
Provokes us to anger
Attempts to keep us from forgiving
Distorts our communication
Capitalizes on childhood wounds
Tempt us to pride

Letter from Screwtape to Wormview

Characters in the Letter

Uncle Screwtape (The Senior Devil)
Wormview (Nephew of Uncle Screwtape)
The father below (Satan)
Earthlings Father Above (God - their Enemy)
Viewpoint Earthlings (Us)
Earthlings War Book (The Bible)

Biblical process for dealing with attacks:

Develop a plan. Isaiah 32:8 NIV But the noble make noble plans, and by noble deeds they stand.

Commit and submit your life to God. James 4:7 (NIV)
Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Use the authority of Christ. Philippians 2:9-11
Exercise Knowledge, Faith, Trust, Love, Joy, Hope, Empathy, Humility, Obedience and Forgiveness
(2 Cor. 2:9-11)

Our Response:

Have I submitted my life to Christ, have I surrendered?
Have I asked him to be the Lord of my life?
Have I asked the Holy Spirit to fill me?
Have I made an uncompromising decision to obey God, to exercise faith, trust, hope, joy, obedience and forgiveness.
Are there any areas I am holding onto?
Is there anyone I haven't forgiven?