



Sermon Discussion Questions
10-26-2025

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Series: Under the Circumstances

Week 4: How to Partner with Jesus in Destroying the Work of the Devil

1. ICE BREAKER: This series has been challenging for many people in our church. As an icebreaker today, simply talk about how the series has been for you.
2. Read our Scripture for this week, 1 John 3:8:

⁸The one who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work.

We read this verse last week. What are you noticing as you read it again today? What questions or thoughts do you have about this verse?

3. Before beginning the message, Trevor shared a few words of caution when thinking about the work of the enemy: 1) Not everything is demonic; 2) Mental illness and demonic activity are not the same thing; 3) We don't need to be afraid of the demonic; 4) Don't overfocus on spiritual warfare.

Have you ever fallen into any of these categories? Talk about why it's important to understand these words of caution. Which one of them stands out as especially important to you?

4. Read John 10:10, "*The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.*" In order to partner with Jesus in destroying the work of the devil, we need to know that demons are real, demons want to destroy you, and they respond to higher authority.

Discuss John 10:10. What truths does this teach you? What makes it difficult to believe these ideas? Have you been taught these concepts before, or is this new to you?

5. 1 John 4:4 says, "*the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world,*" which means we don't need to be afraid of the devil. In fact, we are given 3 tools of authority: the name of Jesus, the Word of God, and the blood of the Cross.

Discuss the metaphor of the authority a police officer has, and how that relates to what we have from Jesus. Do you have any verses that you use to "fight," or that you have used in hard situations? Is it easy or hard for you to believe that you have authority over the evil one? Why?

There are three important daily steps to take when partnering with Jesus to oppose and overthrow evil.

6. First, submit yourself daily to God. James 4:7 says, "*Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.*" James reminds us here that we must first submit to God. In fact, your level of submission determines your level of authority from God.

What are some daily faith practices that could help you in submitting to God? What do you think it means that submission determines authority?

7. Second, close any open doors. Sometimes there are ways that we have let the enemy gain a foothold in our lives, which, if undealt with, can become a stronghold. This might be undealt with sin, anger, bitterness or unforgiveness, or spiritual activities that are disconnected from Jesus.

Recent research is finding that more and more people today are open spiritually, but aren't religious. Talk about this idea and if you believe that to be true. Have you ever heard the idea that a foothold becomes a stronghold? Why is this important to know?

8. Third, confront your enemy daily. Pastor Chris Hodges says, "Prayer is both communion with God and confrontation with the enemy."

React to this quote. How do you most often experience prayer? Is there anything challenging about this quote? If so, what? What are some ways someone might confront the enemy in prayer?

9. PRACTICE: Reread the three important daily steps to take in fighting evil -
- 1) Submit yourself to God
 - 2) Close any open doors
 - 3) Confront your enemy daily.

Ask someone in your group to play prayerful music. Pray through the three steps above, and ask the Holy Spirit to highlight one for you that requires action in your own life. What might you need to release, stop, or start, in order to partner with Jesus more effectively in the healing He wants to bring to you?

Share with your group any thoughts, impressions, or images that came to your mind.