

Small Group Bible Study

Spiritual Warfare Week 4

Main Theme

Spiritual warfare is real, but not every battle is the enemy. Scripture calls believers to discern the difference between attacks from the enemy, pressures from the world, struggles of the flesh, and the loving correction of God. The solution in every case is the same: cling to Jesus and stand in the victory He has already won.

Opening Prayer

God, give us wisdom and discernment as we open Your Word. Help us see clearly, test everything, and trust You fully. Teach us to recognize Your voice and walk closely with You. Amen.

ICEBREAKER QUESTION

- If you could instantly know the answer to one unknown in your life right now, what would you want clarity on?

SCRIPTURE STUDY

Scripture Reading 1 Testing the Source

Read 1 John 4:1-3

- What does John command believers to do before trusting a spiritual influence?
- Why do you think discernment is necessary rather than fear?
- How does this passage challenge the idea that every struggle is spiritual warfare?
- What does it look like practically to test what you are experiencing against Scripture?

Scripture Reading 2 When the Enemy Attacks

Read 1 Peter 5:8-9 & Romans 8:38-39

- How is the enemy described in 1 Peter, and what posture are believers called to take?
- What lies does the enemy commonly use to distort truth about God and ourselves?
- How does Romans 8 reframe fear that comes from accusation or condemnation?
- What warning signs might indicate spiritual opposition rather than ordinary hardship?

Scripture Reading 3 When the World Presses In

Read Ephesians 2:1-3, 1 John 5:19, 2 Corinthians 4:3-4

- According to these passages, how does Scripture describe the influence of the world?
- How is suffering sometimes a byproduct of living faithfully rather than an attack?
- Why does understanding the brokenness of the world change how we respond to people who hurt us?
- How does this reading shape the way we pray for those who oppose or misunderstand us?

Scripture Reading 4 When God Is at Work

Read Romans 2:4 & Romans 13:11-14

- How does God's conviction feel different from accusation or shame?
- What is the purpose of God's kindness according to Romans 2?
- How does Romans 13 call believers to take responsibility for their spiritual lives?
- How can we tell the difference between discipline meant to draw us closer and pressure meant to pull us away?

SERMON RECAP QUESTIONS

- Which of the four sources do you most often assume is behind your struggles?
- Where might you be giving the enemy credit for something God is inviting you to grow through?
- How has this series reshaped the way you think about spiritual warfare?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- Ask God daily for discernment rather than assumptions when facing difficulty.
- Commit to testing thoughts, emotions, and influences against Scripture before reacting.
- Strengthen your walk with Jesus through prayer and time in the Word, remembering that closeness to Him is your greatest defense.

CLOSING PRAYER

Jesus, we choose to cling to You. Teach us to walk in wisdom, humility, and trust. Help us stand in the victory You have already secured and follow You faithfully in every battle. Amen.