

SERMON DATE • MAY 5, 2024
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This guide offers a simple tool for those wanting to take the next step with Sunday's message. You can print this guide to study on your own or use it in a group and experience transformation together.

MESSAGE THEME

The Enemy Is Alive and Well

PRAYER FOCUS

Father, I believe Your Word to be truth. Your Kingdom is alive and active, and I'm grateful for the clear instructions You've given me on how to stand up against the enemy affecting our culture. Thank You for equipping me with the power to do so. Through the name of Jesus, I can heal the sick and mend the broken. Your name is above all, and Your Word is more real than my emotions. Lord, You're worthy of my praise. In Jesus' name. Amen!

KEY TRUTHS

As Christians, our battles aren't against other people but against the spirit of the enemy. This means our adversary is not the people around us with whom we disagree; instead, it is a spiritual being. According to the Bible, the Devil is the ruler of our culture, and he's doing everything in his power to prevent God's promises from being fulfilled. Despite this, we remain hopeful and steadfast in our faith, trusting that God's promises will come to pass.

We should understand two important things. First, the Devil is alive and well and on the move. Second, we have the authority to resist him. It's crucial to acknowledge the existence of Satan and not live in ignorance. Jesus has warned us about the Devil's intentions, which are to steal, kill, and destroy. However, God sent Christ to provide us with abundant life. Our freedom was paid for because Jesus came to destroy the works of the Devil.

Psalms say God has a plan for every person, even before they're born. Jesus wishes to work through us and showcase what He accomplished on the cross. One of our duties as believers is to lay our hands on the sick and pray for them to recover. Additionally, God commanded us to love each other and have faith in the name of Jesus Christ.

When Jesus came to Earth, He was born as a human being, demonstrating that we, too, can do amazing things and more with the power given to us. He assures us that He will support us if we use His name. Jesus didn't just die *for* us, but He died *as one of us*, and God wants to treat us as if we're His children. As we learn about what Jesus did for us and gain knowledge, grace and peace will multiply. We can't believe God for what we don't know, so gaining knowledge is crucial for standing in faith. God has already given us everything we need for life and godliness; now, we must trust Him to receive it. When we meditate on God's word it gets down on the inside of us and we begin to live differently.

PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Our feelings change frequently and we can't trust them. The Bible teaches us that our adversary, the Devil, is the Accuser. He makes us experience negative or incorrect feelings and then deceives us into believing those emotions are accurate. His goal is to convince us that God is not on our side and will not provide for us.

We need to remind ourselves that Jesus's blood has cleansed us, and God gave Jesus' name to use. Whenever our hearts tell us we're not qualified, we must convince ourselves otherwise. We should keep affirming what God says about us in His Word until it becomes a part of our core. We must remember that God is more real than our emotions and feelings.

REFERENCE VERSES

- 1 Peter 5:8
- Ephesians 6:12
- Ezekiel 5:35
- Revelations 2:10, 2:20-21
- 1 Thessalonians 2:18
- John 10:10, 14:12-14, 16:24
- Romans 14:17
- Luke 13:10-16, 14:12-14
- Acts 10:38, 13:6, 16:16-18
- 1 John 5:19, 3:23, 3:19-20
- Mark 5:1-13, 16:17-18, 4:24
- Psalms 139:13-14, 110:5-6
- Philippians 2:5-11
- Galatians 2:20

- 2 Peter 1:2-4
- Joshua 1:8
- 2 Corinthians 5:21

DECLARATIONS

The name of Jesus is exalted above every other name. It holds authority over sickness, confusion, and disease. I will trust God's Word and refuse to let my emotions control my life. I have the authority over Satan through the name of Jesus Christ.

WHAT'S NEXT?

Now it's time to write down anything the Lord has spoken to you. Praise Him, thank Him, and ask the Holy Spirit to help you walk this out.

