

RESISTANCE

GROUP GUIDE

This guide is designed to help you grow in your relationship with God and develop meaningful, lasting relationships with others. Get together with friends, or visit brookwoodchurch.org/groups to find a group that's already meeting. *Let's do life together!*

Message Series: Resistance

Topic: Spiritual Warfare

Message 2: You are Born into a Battle

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Spiritual warfare is the inward and outward battle we face against Satan and his army of fallen angels.

Adrian Rogers, Love Worth Finding Ministries

Connect

Describe a time you felt God's peace even though you were in a difficult situation.

Pray

Spend a couple of minutes quieting your heart and focusing on God.

Consider these prayer points, changing the me/my to us/our if praying in a group.

- God, help me grow in my understanding of spiritual warfare.
- Help me understand how to identify Satan's lies.
- Help me understand how to resist Satan's lies.
- Help me learn how to live in the victory of Christ.
- Help me experience You as I study the Bible.
- Please help me identify at least one specific takeaway from this week's message.
- God, thank you for the ways you work in my life.

Read

Genesis 3:1-5 (NIV)

Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden?’”

The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, ‘You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.’”

“You will not certainly die,” the serpent said to the woman. “For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

Explore and Discuss

Insight: Describing the serpent, *crafty* can also be translated as subtle, cunning, sneaky or shrewd.

1. What lies did Satan try to get Eve to believe?

2. How do these passages describe Satan?
 - a. John 8:44

 - b. 2 Corinthians 11:14

 - c. Revelation 12:9

3. How do these descriptions of Satan change your perspective on your own life and also what’s happening in the world?

4. Last week we considered how Satan is an accuser. This week we see that he is also a deceiver.
 - a. What lies do you sense he’s been whispering to you?

 - b. What truths counteract these lies?

 - c. What are ways those lies have impacted your relationships?

5. When are you most susceptible to believing Satan’s lies?

Genesis 3:6-9 (NIV)

When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, “Where are you?”

6. What does it mean that their eyes were opened, and they realized they were naked?

7. Eve’s decision directly affected Adam’s decision. In what ways have you seen the lies of Satan negatively impact your relationships?

8. God obviously knew where Adam was, so why do you think He asked Adam, *Where are you?*

Genesis 3:10-13 (NIV)

He answered, “I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.”

And he said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?”

The man said, “The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.”

Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?”

The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

9. How did Adam and Eve respond after being deceived and confronted?

10. How do you think you would have responded?

11. When have you failed to take responsibility (or blamed someone else) for a choice you made?

12. What daily practices can help you discern and resist Satan’s lies?

Make a Move

Spend a few minutes in silence and ask God what he wants you to know and remember from this week's study and discussion. Is there an emotion or thought He's stirring in you? Is there a specific step God is leading you to take?

Memorize

One of the best ways to hear God throughout the day is to store His words in your heart and mind.

Based on this week's theme, commit these words of Scripture to memory:

"And I will cause hostility between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring. He will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."

Genesis 3:15 (NLT)