

## LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

# KINGDOM COME — SATAN’S #1 WEAPON

Genesis 3

Pastor Miles McPherson – November 22, 2015

“The New Testament evidence for Satan’s existence is extensive. Every New Testament writer and nineteen of the books make reference to him. Christ Himself makes reference to Satan twenty-five times. The fact of Satan’s existence finds ultimate support in the veracity of Christ’s words.”<sup>1</sup>

## MEMORY VERSE

*Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. (1 Peter 5:8-9, ESV)*

## DISCUSSION STARTERS

It seems that in the recent years of American culture, there has been an increase of interest in spiritual things and the supernatural.

**What do you think the America public thinks about the devil?**

**Perspective:** We don’t need to live in fear of Satan and demons because Jesus has already defeated Satan, Jesus is more powerful, and you have the Holy Spirit living within you!

*“I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”* John 16:33

*“Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.”* 1 John 4:4

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<sup>1</sup> Paul P. Enns, *The Moody Handbook of Theology* (Chicago, IL: Moody Press, 1989), 292.



## STUDY QUESTIONS

### Two-fold LIE

In Sunday's sermon, Pastor Miles said that Satan uses a two-fold lie to keep us from living the way God wants us to:

- "Sin has no consequence"
- "You can be like God – in total control of your life"

How has this lie impacted your life?

### New Testament Descriptions of the Devil

#### → Read John 8:44

How does Jesus describe the devil?

What are the implications of these character traits?

#### → Read 2 Corinthians 4:4

Paul uses the title "god of this world" for Satan. What does that mean?

How do you think that Satan has shaped the culture of our nation?

Satan has a strategic campaign to lead people away from God and take them captive to do his will instead of God's (2 Tim 2:26). Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil (1 John 3:8), and to plunder his household (Mark 3:27). As his followers, we are called to walk in the victory and freedom that he gives, and then to engage in the spiritual battle and lead those in bondage to be set free!

### When Satan Tempted Jesus

The Bible describes three temptations that Satan threw at Jesus. Let's look at these to discover the underlying lies and how to respond when we're tempted.

→ Read Matthew 4:1-11 – then talk through each of the temptations one at a time, answering the following:

What was the temptation?

What deceptive lie was behind the temptation?

How did Jesus' response to each overcome the lie?



Notice that in the second temptation, Satan quoted Scripture... but he was taking it out of context and turning it into a temptation. In the sermon, Pastor Miles stated:

“Don’t ever talk with the Devil by questioning God’s faithfulness. You can’t know Scripture unless you read & study Scripture. If you don’t know it...Satan will gladly distort it.”

**Application:**

What steps will you take to become better equipped to stand against the lies of Satan?

How do you plan to increase your knowledge, understanding and recall of Scripture?

**GROUP ACTIVITY**

Take five minutes to process individually the following “Pray” and “Ask” sections below. You may want to record any thoughts that God brings to mind in the Notes section below.

**Pray:** Ask God to open your eyes to see the reality of the schemes of Satan

**Ask:** What lies have I been believing? What is God’s truth about that?

**Declare:** I reject the lie that sin has no consequences.

I reject the lie that I can decide good and evil on my own.

**Share with the group:** What did God reveal to you?

**Notes:**

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