

## Kingdom Training Level 7: Finding My Mission

### Lesson 3: The Attack on our Mission

*Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. Ephesians 6:11*

#### Recommended Reading

1. The Kingdom of God, Tom Jones
2. Seeing the Unseen, Joe Beam
3. The Lion Never Sleeps, Mike Taliaferro
4. The Killer Within, Mike Taliaferro
5. Counterfeit Gods, Timothy Keller
6. Respectable Sins, Jerry Bridges

#### No Surprise!

- *Dear friends, don't be surprised by the terrible things happening to you. The trouble you are having has come to test you. So don't feel as if something strange were happening to you. (1 Pet 4:12 NIRV)*
- *The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash. (Matt 7:27)*
- *In this world you will have trouble. (John 16:33)*
- *The devil is filled with fury because he knows that his time is short (Rev 12)*
- *I will build my church and the gates of hades cannot prevail against it. (Matthew 16:18)*
- **Jesus' promise is not an attack-free life... but strength to stand up under attack**

#### 1. Satan's Schemes

1. TEMPTATION: From the Garden (Gen 3) to Christ (Mat 4) to disciples today (1 Thes 3:5)
  - **Enticement/Compromise:** Satan's substitute for eternal joy and true riches
  - **Fight for our Walk with God** with the Breastplate of Righteousness, renewing our relationship with God through Confession and Repenting of Compromises
2. ACCUSATION: From Job (Job 1-2) to brothers and sisters today (Rev 12:10)
  - **Mind Game:** Believe negative about ourselves rather than amazing things about God
  - **Fight for our Walk with God** using the Sword of the Spirit, the Word of God, to Build Conviction to believe God's truths instead of Satan's lies
3. DELUSION: The man of lawlessness deceives disciples (2 Thes 2:9-12)
  - **Rules/Rituals/Religion:** False religion and lies keep us from truth, repentance, relationship
  - **Fight for our Walk with God** using the Sword of the Spirit to recognize the spiritual war
4. CONTENTION: *If you bite and devour each other... you destroy each other (Galatians 5:15)*
  - **Wounds:** Bitterness, damage, and hurt lead to internal focus and fighting
  - **Fight to Love One Another** by praying in the Spirit to be unified against the real enemy and recognizing that our brothers and sisters are Jesus' body
5. DIVISION: *Put your religion into practice by caring for your own family (1 Tim 5:4)*
  - **Hypocrisy in the Home:** Sacrifice unity & spirituality by compromising at home
  - **Fight to Build Family** through the Helmet of Salvation = Eternal Perspective
  - **You and Me Forever** – Marriage in light of eternity! Worship God, not family!
6. CONFUSION: *The diligent find freedom in their work; the lazy are oppressed by work (Pr 12:24)*
  - **Extremes:** Consumed to get ahead or making excuses to avoid hard work
  - **Fight to Work Wholeheartedly** using the Belt of Truth - a reality check: be Jesus at work/school
7. DECEPTION: *When did we see you hungry, Jesus? (Matt 25:44)*
  - **Apathy:** Avoid the needy or avoid setting aside the time to help them
  - **Fight to Serve the Needy** with the Shield of Faith, believing that God cares and that the needy person out there is Jesus. Examine what we are spending our time, money, & energy doing!

8. CLOAKING: *The devil prowls around looking for someone to devour (1 Pet 5:8)*
  - **Stealth Mode:** We believe or we act like Satan doesn't exist or there's no urgency
9. DISTRACTION: *We are not unaware of Satan's schemes (2 Cor 2:11)*
  - **Silent:** Too busy or worn out to give ourselves to the mission
  - **Fight to Make Disciples** with feet fitted firmly with the gospel – restoring mission compassion

### Satan isn't God

- Omnipotent? No! Needed permission to attack Job; Defeated (Rev 12); Resist Him! (1 Cor 10:13)
- Omnipresent? No! Has to travel from one place to another (Dan 10); He's bound by time!
- Omniscient? No! Doesn't know end of the world (Matt 24:36) or meaning of prophecy (1 Pet 1:10-12)
- Warning: Do Not Slander Him! 2 Peter 2:10-12!
- Resist him and he will run! (James 4:7)

## 2. The Kingdom of God

*Jesus prayed, "Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven" (Matt 6:10)*

- Satan set himself up as the "commander of the powers in the unseen world" (Eph 2:2 NLT)
- God attacked Satan through "Kingdom Outposts" – the Church!

### **The Kingdom of God...**

- 1) Is NOT of this world (John 18:36): Our citizenship is in heaven (Phil 3:20)
- 2) BELONGS to King Jesus (Acts 2:36,38; Phil 2:9-11)
  - No more playing church, mocking the king, or flirting with the enemy!
  - We renounce the world because we love our glorious King!
- 3) Is First in EVERYTHING (Matt 6:33)
  - Our hearts, homes, work, church, everything!
  - We are UNIFIED against the enemy, fighting as God's family for God's mission
- 4) Will One Day be Heaven! (Revelation 21:1-4)

### **We are...**

- *Attacked by a common **ENEMY***
- *Ruled by a victorious **COMMANDER***
- *Unified with the faithful in His **KINGDOM***

*To be delivered to a glorious eternal **DESTINY***

### Reflection

- How has Satan been attacking you?
  
  
  
  
- How has this impacted your heart to live out your mission?
  
  
  
  
- What do you want to do to fight back?