



We Have an Enemy
1 Peter 5:8-11
Week of June 2, 2019

Objective of this study: To understand our enemy and how he works, and learn how we can give less influence to him and more to God.

[Remember, the main goal of each Growth Group is to allow God's Word to change your heart so that others would see Jesus in you and be likewise changed to be like him. He wants to change the world through us.]

Worship (5 – 10 minutes)

1. Sing a song or two of praise and thanksgiving to God.
2. Spend five minutes in silence asking God to prepare your heart for hearing his word. After the silence, have someone read **Psalm 62:5-8** meditatively to the group. Pause after each phrase letting God speak to you. **Did anything "jump out at you"?**

Welcome question

In what ways does life sometimes feel like a tug of war?

[It's really important when doing this study that we each think about ourselves specifically and ways we need to grow, not how Christians in general need to grow. Do the hard work of letting the Holy Spirit speak to *your* heart.]

Word/Work (60-90 minutes)

1. What stood out from the sermon?
2. Read 1 Peter 5:6-11.
3. What names or descriptions of Satan do you recall from the sermon? For example, he is called the father of lies. See how many you can remember. There were 9 Pastor Jeff had on the keynote slide.
4. Were any of these names new to you, or did they surprise you? Did any of them make you think "Oh yes, I've seen/experienced him at work that way"?
5. Divide up the following passages and look for what each of them have to say about the enemy: : Ephesians 6:12; 2 Corinthians 4:4; 2 Corinthians 11:14; James 4:7; 1 John 3:8; Ephesians 2:2; Ephesians 4:26-27; Revelations 20:10.
6. **Sermon quote:** Some things we know about Satan and his influence:
 1. He is a liar.
 2. He is a thief.
 3. The only tools he has against those who are in Christ are lies and half truths.
 4. He is powerful, but unlike God, he is not omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent, or infinite.
 5. He will often use things that look good in order to keep people in bondage.
 6. When we live in ways that go against how God designed us to live, we give Satan power over us. When we move away from God we move towards Satan.
 7. He is completely evil. There is no good in him.
 8. He wants to destroy your relationships.
 9. He is powerless against the name of Jesus.
 10. He has an expiry date.

Which of the above particularly catch your attention?

7. **Sermon quote:** "Unresolved anger, bitterness, and resentment all give a foothold to Satan. He will feed those negative emotions in us so our hearts get harder and harder until our thinking gets very fuzzy."

Have you experienced this in your life?

8. **Sermon quote:** "There is a big difference between God's motives and the motives of Satan. God's motive is love and kindness. He wants to heal you and build you into the person he created you to be. Satan wants to destroy you. He wants to plant seeds of doubt, discouragement, despair, disunity, fear, and shame."

How is God nudging you to move more towards him, and more away from Satan, this week?

Close by reading Colossians 1:11-14 out loud to the group. Respond in worship to God.

Prayer:

1. Spend the rest of the time praying for each other. **Praise God together for how he works, and how he allows us to partner with him to accomplish things in his kingdom.**
2. Here are some things you can pray about for the church:

A. That, as a church, we would actively and purposefully engage in the mission of Jesus in Campbell River.

B. Our church board and staff as they lead us to live out the mission of Jesus.

C. River Kids ministry as they reach out to kids in our community.

D. **Our missionary of the week:** Nadeem and Jamila Qazi. (Check out the church [website](#) for how to pray for them.)

E. Local church: Black Creek Community Church.

Radiant Life May Drive - Jackets, T-shirts, and blankets.

