



1. When you think of the idea that we are in a “spiritual war”, what comes to your mind? Have you ever experienced this war first hand? How? What spiritual issues have you/are you wrestling with right now that you would consider to be part of this battle? Have you ever thought of your struggles in this context?
2. Read Isaiah 14:12-16. How did Satan start out? What did he eventually want? When Satan tempted Eve in the garden of Eden, he told her she could be like God, knowing good and evil. Does he still tell people that they can be like God? How do people act like God?
3. What are the three specific ways that Satan is involved in this spiritual war? What are some ways that Satan deceives people? What are some of the counterfeits that Satan offers in contrast to what God offers to people?
4. Read 2 Corinthians 11:14,15. Have you personally seen how Satan and his minions disguise themselves as angels of light in your life? How?
5. Read Ephesians 6:10-19. What are the armor pieces that are mentioned that we must put on in order to stand against Satan? What one practical thing you can do today to help make sure you do not fall for one of Satan’s lies?
6. What are the two major mistakes we make when it comes to Satan? What is the danger to us if we do either of these things? Do you feel you tend to underestimate or overestimate Satan’s impact in your life? How does this affect you?

ANSWERS

1. *Let your members discuss their views on spiritual warfare.*
2. *Satan started out as one of God's created angels, but he seemed to be the supreme angel that God created by his description. Satan allowed the sin of pride to creep in (so the angels must have had a measure of free will, like us) and he wanted to become a God. He knew he could not replace God, but wanted to be as powerful as Him. In Satan's warfare against God, he wants to supplant God in your lives and he wants us to worship him as God. When we place ourselves as our own god, we are actually accomplishing what Satan wants.*
3. *The three things that Satan does in spiritual warfare are: A. He is the accuser of all people, he accuses us and actually has access to God at this time. Job 1:6 and Rev. 12:10 B. He is the master deceiver and the source of all lies. Rev. 12:9. John 8:44 C. He is the counterfeiter of everything that is good from God. 2 Corinthians 11:14-15*
4. *For everything that God offers to us, Satan offers a counterfeit. Jesus says that joy comes from serving Him, Satan says that joy comes from serving yourself. Every sin is based on a lie and is a counterfeit for what God has created. God says sexual fulfillment comes within marriage, Satan says sexual fulfillment comes from having sex with as many people as possible outside of marriage.*
5. *Read Ephesians 6:10-19. The way we are on guard against Satan's lies and deception is to put on the armor of God, and the most important part is the belt of truth. Without knowing what God says is true in the Bible, we are susceptible to all of Satan's lies. This is why no matter what we think, do, or say, we must evaluate them in light of what God says is the truth. If we do not, we will base our thoughts, actions, and words on a lie from Satan.*
6. *The two major mistakes we tend to make with Satan is that we either overestimate his power and abilities or we underestimate his influence and deceptive tactics. If we overestimate his power and abilities then we will live in constant fear of him and blame him for everything bad that happens to us, "The Devil made me do it". If we underestimate his influence and deceptive tactics then we become an easy prey to his influence and we will buy into his lies.*