

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 1: Do You Know Your Enemy?

January 19, 2025

Connect

Select any or all of these to get the conversation rolling.

1. Share your name and how you got connected with Brookwood or with this group.
2. When it comes to the topic of Spiritual Warfare, which of these describes you? *Check all that apply.*
 - I'm fairly familiar with what the Bible says about Spiritual Warfare.
 - I believe spiritual warfare is a real thing, but I don't think about it very often.
 - This is a relatively new concept for me.
 - I'm looking forward to learning more.
 - I don't think this concept is real.
 - I don't see how this topic is relevant to my life.

Share and explain your responses with each other.

3. What are you hoping to get out of this series on Spiritual Warfare?

There is a life and death battle going on between the kingdom of darkness and the kingdom of God, between the father of lies and the Spirit of truth. We are in this battle whether we like it or not.

Neil T. Anderson, *The Essential Guide to Spiritual Warfare*

Pray

Spend a couple 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 who Satan is and how he attacks me.
- 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

Revelation 12:7-10 (NIV)

Then war broke out in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.

Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say:

*“Now have come the salvation and the power
and the kingdom of our God,
and the authority of His Messiah.*

*For the accuser of our brothers and sisters,
who accuses them before our God day and night,
has been hurled down.*

Insight: Michael is the *chief angel* who is a champion of justice and a spiritual warrior in the battle between good and evil. In Hebrew, the name *Michael* literally translates to *one who is like God*, reflecting his role as a powerful defender of God's people. (See Daniel 10:13, 21; 12:1; Jude 1:9).

Explore and Discuss

1. Why is it important to know there was a war in heaven? What's the outcome of the war?
2. What does this passage teach you about God?
3. What does this passage teach you about Satan?
4. What strikes you as you look at these lists side-by-side?

5. How can these differences between God and Satan give you encouragement and hope?
6. How does the voice in heaven announce both victory and warning?
7. Christians can commit two errors, either being oblivious to the spiritual battle or being fixated on or fearful of demonic powers. How does this passage give us a balance of both?
8. How can we find comfort in the fact of the establishment of God's rule in heaven even as we face trials on earth?
9. This passage names Satan as an accuser.
 - a. What accusations do you sense he's been whispering to you?
 - b. What truths counteract these lies?
 - c. How have you either agreed with or rejected those accusations?
10. How would it change the way you approach life if you were more aware of Satan's attacks?

Make it Count

- What is God saying to you about this week's study and conversation?
- How do you feel you need to respond?

Closing Time of Prayer

Allow a few minutes for reflection on this question: What in your life is being attacked? Spend time praying for each other over these areas. May we fight against the enemy by praying and entering into the victory we have in Jesus.

Memorize

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

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

This great dragon—the ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, the one deceiving the whole world—was thrown down to the earth with all his angels.

Revelation 12:9 (NLT)