

AWARE of the **WAR**

ARMED in the **LORD**

ACTIVE for **VICTORY**

Aware of the War... Armed in the Lord... Active for Victory

Tuesdays 9:15-11:30

Fall Schedule 2023

Room A112

Sep. 5	Lesson 1	Aware of the War	2 Corinthians 10:3
Sep. 12	Lesson 2	Satan's Plan...God's Remedy	Ephesians 6:10-11
Sep. 19	Lesson 3	The Core of Truth	2 Timothy 3:6
Sep. 26	Lesson 4	Know the Truth...It Will Set You Free	John 1:12
Oct. 3	Lesson 5	Protecting the Heart...the Breastplate	2 Corinthians 5:21
Oct. 10	Lesson 6	Putting On...Putting Off	James 1:21-22

****Share Day Luncheon****Bring a Dish to Share****Food & Fellowship****

Oct. 17	Lesson 7	Shoes That Stand Firm	Ephesians 5:8-9
Oct. 24	Lesson 8	Faith—Taking Up the Shield	Hebrews 11:1
Oct. 31	Lesson 9	Our God...Trustworthy, Loyal and True	2 Timothy 1:7
Nov. 7	Lesson 10	Salvation for Today and Eternity	1 Thessalonians 5:8
Nov. 14	Lesson 11	Put On That Helmet !	Philippians 4:8-9
		Sword Of the Spirit	Ephesians 6:10-20

****Share Day Luncheon****Bring a Dish to Share****Let's Celebrate****

International Ladies Bible Study Team

Liliana Suarez	Marie Reynolds
Nitra Kirkwood	Hannah Ko
Faby Caraveo	Maria Costa

Yolanda Jenkins

Teacher: Bobette Boyd

Cell: 469-585-8301

Address: 11312 Meredith Dr

Email: sbyelor1@yahoo.com

Word List

angel ~ a servant of God. He brings messages from God to people on earth. But an 'evil angel' (also called a demon or evil spirit) is a servant of the devil.

apostle ~ someone whom God sends to teach about Jesus and to lead his *church.

baptism ~ the way that people show to everyone that they belong to Christ. The person goes under water, or someone puts water on the person.

church ~ a group of Christians, or all Christians. It does not refer to the building where they meet.

circumcise ~ to cut off the loose skin from the end of the sex part of a man or a boy. For the *Jews, it was the proof that a man agreed to obey God's laws.

descendant ~ a future member of a family or a nation.

disciple ~ someone who learns what Jesus taught. A disciple trusts and follows Jesus.

Gentile ~ any person who is not a *Jew.

good news ~ the good news for everyone that God forgives everyone who trusts Jesus Christ. God sent Jesus to this world. Jesus died on a wooden cross and then God made him alive again. Jesus died on our behalf. He died to make people free from their *sins.

Greek ~ a person who comes from the country called Greece; or, the language in which the authors wrote the *New Testament.

Hebrew ~ the language that the *Jews spoke. The authors wrote most of the *Old Testament in the *Hebrew language.

idol ~ a thing that people make out of wood, stone or metal. People *worship it instead of God.

Jew ~ a person who comes from the family of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob; or, a person who follows the *Jewish religion.

Jewish ~ a word that describes a *Jew or anything about *Jews.

Jewish law ~ the laws that God gave to the *Jews in the first 5 books of the *Old Testament.

Lord ~ the title for God or Jesus in the Bible. It shows that he has authority as our ruler.

miracle ~ a great thing that only God can do; an event that seems to be opposite to natural events.

New Testament ~ the last part of the Bible that the writers wrote after the life of Jesus. It is about the things that Jesus taught. It describes the main events during his life. The New Testament is also about what Christians believe. And it explains how Christians should live.

Old Testament ~ the first part of the Bible, which writers wrote before Jesus was born.

peace ~ in the *Hebrew language, this word is 'shalom'. It is a traditional greeting in the *Old Testament (Numbers 6:24-26) and among *Jewish people today. 'Peace' is not just the opposite of war or noise. Peace means that God gives a person a calm spirit. This affects every part of a person's life and relationships.

preach ~ to teach the *good news about Jesus Christ.

Roman ~ people who lived in or who came from the city called Rome. Or, that which belonged to Rome. Rome was a powerful city at that time. It had a strong army. The Romans ruled many countries. Those countries had to obey Roman law and to pay Roman taxes.

Scripture ~ another name for the Bible, especially the *Old Testament.

sin ~ when people do not obey God; something bad that a person does against God or against other people.

spiritual ~ that which belongs to the spirit rather than physical things; that which belongs to God's Spirit or to heaven.

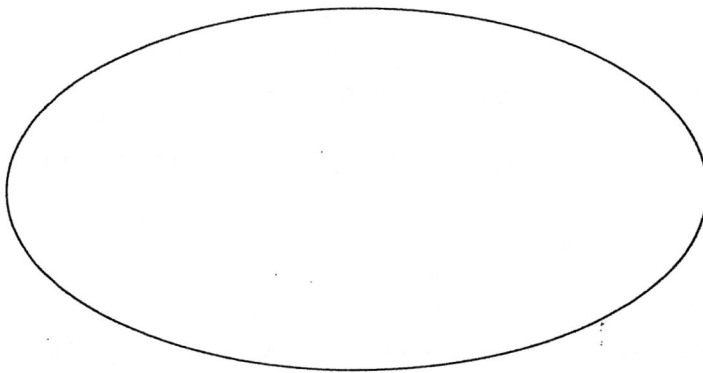
worship ~ to give honour to God; or, to give honour to a false god; to tell someone that they are very

There is a war going on around you that impacts your life every day. There is an enemy, the devil, **scheming** against you, assaulting you, coming after your mind, your emotions, your husband and your children. Even your future. Right now!

Please open your Bible to Ephesians 6:12. Let's read it aloud. What does it mean?

The Bible says we are *not struggling against* _____ and _____. Please circle this in your Bible.

What *are we struggling against*? _____, _____, the powers of this _____, and the spiritual forces of _____ in the heavenly realms. Please underline them in your Bible. The devil's goal is to _____ us.



In the oval write the name of the most difficult person, hardest problem, and/or most **overwhelming** circumstance you're facing in your life *right now*.

In what way are you struggling with this person or circumstance at this time?
Whoever or whatever it is---IT IS NOT THE REAL PROBLEM!

Most troubling in life are things we perceive with our five senses. But, that's not the issue. We may be struggling verbally, emotionally, financially, physically, but we are wasting our time and energy. Why?

Because everything that is visible, in the physical world is directly connected to the struggle being fought in the invisible, spiritual world. Underline this sentence. Write this sentence in the space below.

Go to the oval and write "NOT THE REAL ENEMY" on the line next to it. The devil may be invisible but he is very real and struggles against us every moment.

There are definite *effects* of the war going on in the unseen world on each of us. And the outcome is we are left feeling weighted down by fear, anxiety, pride etc. Name some ways you have felt “weighted down” in your life recently.

1) _____ 2) _____

Paul shows us that victory in spiritual warfare cannot be separated from _____. Ephesians 6:10 And we must realize *spiritual blessings are already ours!* Eph 1:18-21, 3:14-19. The same divine force that raised Christ from the grave is the same power at work in and through believers! WOW!

Let's identify the “riches in Christ” Paul tells us about. Ephesians 1:3, 1:7-8, 1:13.

Today, we live out our beliefs about the spiritual realm in relation to our beliefs about Satan, making one of two mistakes:

- 1) We **overestimate** his impact in our lives and are burdened with fear and anxiety.
- 2) We underestimate his impact and live by what we can see over what we can't.

Which do you find you tend to practice in your daily life? What are the results of that? We have become a culture unaware of the enemy's presence, of his schemes to destroy our lives and separate us from God in as much as he possibly can! How does this happen? Let's read 2 Corinthians 11:14. Spiritual victory is connected to our ability to “uncover him”, “take away his mask”. Pay attention to him!

According to scripture; John 8:44, 2 Corinthians 4:4, Revelation 4:4 the devil can be best described as “the deceiver” with deceptive schemes, dirty tricks and attacks to **manipulate** the truth about God and about *you*. He wants to lead you into sin to weaken or break the relationship between you and the One who provides your true _____ and _____.

The devil's work is behind the false **ideologies** of our culture as seen in the **emphasis** on: a) appearances b) value of money c) redefinition of the family d) abortion's for convenience and much more. Evil temptations appealing to your specific desires and the disharmony that threatens your most valuable relationships are not an accident, but deceptive tactics of the devil.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

In Scripture, names were much more than nomenclature. They revealed the character of the person. The same is true for our enemy. An overview of his names reveals his overarching methodology of attack against God's people. Here are some of them.

1. **Satan means "the adversary"**

[of God]. The enemy is antagonistic to the plans and purposes of God. He will always seek to misconstrue and malign the character of God and to thwart the purposes of God (Job 1:6).

2. **Devil means "slandorous."**

The enemy's intention is to defame and malign the character and intentions of God and others. He will whisper lies in hopes of denigrating God's reputation, which in turn will diminish your confidence in God and cause you to mistrust His direction (Matt. 4:1; Eph. 4:25-27).

3. **Lucifer means "day star" or**

"shining one." The enemy's appearance is attractive, alluring, and charming. Because of this, he can approach you in an appealing way to lure and entice your attention and admiration. This deceptive package will often be the furthest from repulsive or foul, making his handiwork difficult to detect (Isa. 14:12-14; Luke 10:18).

4. **Tempter means "one who tempts people for the purpose of enticing**

them to sin." The enemy seeks to mislead your passions so that you will seek to fulfill them in perverted, illegitimate ways. He'll intentionally set personalized temptations in your path that are distorted variations of God's gifts to you (Matt. 4:3; 1 Thess. 3:5).

5. **Ruler of the World means the enemy's approach is not isolated to individuals.**

He has collective cultural and global methods designed to derail entire nations and people groups from God's intended plan. He carefully crafts and proliferates philosophies, doctrines, and moral perspectives across entire demographics in order to steer whole societies away from God (John 12:31; 2 Cor. 4:4).

6. **Prince of the Power of the Air/Prince of Darkness means the devil does not work alone. He is the chief leader of the tribe of dark forces who seek to carry out his purposes in the domain of darkness—a very real, yet invisible realm that effects everything seen and heard in the physical, visible realm (Eph. 2:2; Eph. 6:12).**

7. **Accuser means "one who condemns."**

The enemy seeks to weaken the believer's confidence and influence by conveying condemnation and guilt. He points out and constantly reminds you of sin and mistakes in order to cripple the believer with discouragement and shame (Rev. 12:10).

8. **Father of Lies means "liar" and**

"falsifier." The enemy's character contains no truth and light. When he speaks and acts, he will always seek to falsify and deceive. He will blatantly and unapologetically misconstrue the truths of your personal reality and circumstance. He will also seek to mislead you with inaccuracies regarding God, His Word, and His plans for you (John 8:44).

The devil knows that as a daughter of God you cannot be destroyed. However, he can: a) distract you b) discourage you c) divide you from others d) disable you

He wants to terrorize you until you are:

- left incapacitated
- miserable , unable to live in the benefits of victory that has already been won

Christianity has become quite comfortable. How do you see Christianity and the general church become lazy and apathetic?

The enemy *celebrates* apathetic Christian living!

- When we give up on our relationships
- Become careless about the purity of our reputations
- Yield to our desires and appetites without resistance

The red carpet has just been rolled out for him! So he will work hard to:

- Beat you down with discouragement
- Nag you into discontentment
- Lie to you about who God is, causing doubt about the Lord's plans for you
- Hammer you with accusations of guilt/ shame until the burden is too great
- Tricks you into thinking your situation will never change
- That God doesn't hear you or care when you call out to Him
- Your spirit grows low, you have little interest, and your passion burns out

Your spiritual armor goes unworn, like a pile of limp rags in a corner of your life.

You no longer want to *fight* for peace and passion in your marriage

No longer *believe* your child can be restored No longer *hope* for physical healing

No path to *freedom* from addiction No *purpose* in praying anymore...so you don't

You no longer *seek, knock or ask*.

Turn to Ephesians 6:10-11. Write it out. Read it. What actions are we to take?

Why is this important? Read 1Peter 5:8. We are called to a firm resolve and forward motion in faith/prayer. Lazy, apathetic Christianity is no longer an option.

Memory Verse: 2 Corinthians 10:3 "For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does."

IS THERE AN ATTITUDE TO ADJUST? Once you placed faith in Jesus, you were transported with Christ to a position of victory in the heavenly realm. You have every spiritual blessing you will need for walking in victory in heavenly places and also on earth.

What did God show us today?

- 1) Everything that is visible in the physical world is directly connected to the struggle being fought in the invisible, spiritual world.
- 2) Believers spiritual riches, blessings, power and authority are already theirs in Christ! We must recognize them in order to see them and then use them.
- 3) Victory in spiritual warfare cannot be separated from prayer (Eph 6:10)

What is a false ideology in our culture that you see related to spiritual warfare?

Word Study:

- 1) apathetic: showing little or no emotion, not interested or concerned. Don't become apathetic about the battle raging around you.
- 2) ideologies: beliefs, doctrines that guide an individual, group, political or social movement and how to put it in operation. The devil's deceptive tactics are behind false ideologies in our culture; such as redefinition of the family and materialism.
- 3) manipulate: to influence skillfully especially in an unfair manner. The devil manipulates many to suit his purposes with lies about God.
- 4) overestimate: to over value, hold in too great esteem. Some Christians overestimate the power and impact of the devil in their lives.
- 5) overwhelming: overpowering, to overcome completely. Some circumstances in our life seem overwhelming to us.
- 6) scheming: making plans, especially sly and underhanded ones. The devil is always scheming against us to take our joy and victory in Christ away.