



Living Hope
1 Peter 5:8-14
Study Guide

Peter finishes his letter with sobering imagery of our enemy, the devil, as a lion, prowling about, seeking to “devour” us. That is a bit scary, to be honest. In truth, we are in a spiritual battle and under attack. How are we to approach this reality? The big idea this week is to battle evil with truth and faith!

1. What tends to be your approach to the devil as a destructive lion? Are you too chill about it, or too fearful?

2. Read v. 8a. What does it mean for you to be ‘sober-minded’ and ‘watchful’? Discuss.

3. Read v. 8b. Satan hates you for being a follower of Jesus. He wants you to wander away from close fellowship with Jesus so he can cause you pain. It worked with Adam and Eve. Notice how he lied to them. That is his strategy. He is known as the “Father of lies” (John 8:44). He lies about who he is, who God is, and the fact that rebellion is not a big deal. Discuss some of the lies Satan tells us, and how to combat them. How did Jesus battle the lies of Satan when He was tempted (Matthew 4)? How does knowing and reminding ourselves of God’s truths protect us from the lies? Discuss.

4. Read v. 9-11. Discuss the five ‘faith’ elements that will help you in your battle.

a. Resist in Faith- (see also James 4:7).

b. Be firm in faith- (see also Ephesians 6:10)

c. Be together in faith- What does ‘brother/sisterhood’ mean to you?

d. Be future-oriented in faith- How does seeing the future outcome help you today?

e. Be worshipping in faith- How does worship, protect you in the battle?

Application

1. Name one lie that Satan has been trying to tempt you with. Vocalize a truth from God's word that uncovers the lie.
2. Which of the five 'faith' elements could you implement this coming week? Take a few moments to pray for each other in the spiritual battle.

1 Peter 5:8-14

Born Again to a Living Hope

1. Guarded by the power of God
2. Controlling our minds
3. Our royal priesthood
4. Hope in suffering
5. Hope in spiritual attack

Big Idea: We battle evil with truth and faith!

A. Your Mind (v. 8a)

^{8a} Be sober-minded; be watchful.

Satanic Entry Points

1. Rebellion
2. Anger
3. Hatred
4. Guilt
5. False Religion
6. Fear
7. Lust

B. Your Adversary (v. 8b)

^{8b} Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

"Father of Lies..." (John 8:44)

1. He lies about who he is.
2. He lies about who God is.
3. He lies about rebellion.

Big Idea: We battle evil with truth and faith!

C. Firm in Your Faith (v. 9)

⁹ Resist him, firm in your faith, ...

1. Resist in Faith (v. 9a)
- 2 Corinthians 10:5

"We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ."

James 4:7

"Submit yourselves, then to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

2. Firm in Faith (v. 9a)

⁹ Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.

Eph. 6:10 & 18

"Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil...¹⁸Stand therefore, praying at all times in the Spirit..."

3. Together in Faith (v. 9b)

⁹ Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.

4. Future-oriented in Faith (v. 10)

¹⁰ And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.

5. Worshipping in Faith (v. 11)

¹¹ To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Big Idea: We battle evil with truth and faith!

D. Firm in the Grace of God (v. 12-14)

¹² By Silvanus, a faithful brother as I regard him, I have written briefly to you, exhorting and declaring that this is the true grace of God. Stand firm in it.¹³ She who is at Babylon, who is likewise chosen, sends you greetings, and so does Mark, my son. ¹⁴ Greet one another with the kiss of love.

Peace to all of you who are in Christ.

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