



WEEK ONE

03.10.24

DEVIL

Introduction

There's a battle being fought for you. It's happening right now. What kind of battle are we talking about? A spiritual one - and sometimes we don't even know we're in it. This may sound a little overdramatic, but it's a battle you need to fight because the stakes are high. During this series, we'll learn all about fighting and winning the battle for your soul together. In week one, Pastor Jesse taught us about the devil's lies and how Jesus asks us to believe his words as reality.

Discussion

1. When we believe a lie, we begin to live the lie. We make the unreality a reality. Share a time when you believed a lie about yourself (or a topic) that influenced your beliefs and actions. How did it impact your life? How did you, or how are you still, overcoming it?
2. **Revisit and read John 8:31-47.** Jesus tells the ancient Jews (and us) that to believe in him is to believe in reality (which will set you free). He isn't asking you to believe what your neighbor or family member may say about him – he's asking you to believe what he says about himself. Do you believe the words and teachings of Jesus as reality?
3. **Revisit and read Genesis 3:1-5.** In John 8, Jesus says the devil is the father of lies. He wants us to believe that we don't need God and can define reality for ourselves. Where are you believing this lie - or at least resistant to God's reality - in your life right now? Can you identify why you're defining reality on your own here?
4. What impact is this area having on your perspective, decision-making, and relationships right now? How would believing and taking God's word as reality bring freedom and peace for you? What steps (even if difficult) do you need to take first?
5. How are you regularly combating the lies of the devil in your life right now? Where do you need to change your battle plan or ask for help? Discuss the application points below to help encourage and clarify this for you.

Application

- **Hang around the truth.** The Bible will give you regular reminders of what's true. Read the gospels for Jesus' teachings, pray to be in his presence, and allow him to challenge you in obedience (because it actually leads to freedom).
- **Find a Jesus-loving friend and grow together.** Isolation leads to devastation. Having someone in your life who can encourage, pray, challenge, learn with, and hold you accountable makes all the difference.
- **Consider purchasing and reading *Live No Lies*.** This book by John Mark Comer is the basis for this series and provides a deep dive and additional synthesis on the topics we'll cover each week.