

## **Spiritual Warfare: Renewing Our Minds | Week 1 - Recognizing the Battlefield**

### **Big Idea**

Recognizing the battlefield is the first step to confronting the enemy's lies.

### **Scripture**

1 Peter 5:8-11, Ezekiel 28:12-17, John 8:44, and 2 Corinthians 10:3-5

### **Overview**

This week we're beginning a four-week series delving deep into the heart of spiritual warfare to address a battlefield that often goes unnoticed: the battleground of our minds.

### **Opening Question**

Share the background wallpaper on your phone and explain its significance to you.

### **Bible Discussion**

1. Read 1 Peter 5:8-11. How do you interpret the description of the devil as a "roaring lion seeking someone to devour"? What imagery or emotion does this evoke for you? What is the promise in verse 10, and how does this give you hope?
2. Who do you think Ezekiel 28:12-17 refers to? What caused God to react in this way?
3. Read John 8:44. How does Jesus refer to the devil here? How do these attributes of the devil contrast with the nature of God? How does this bolster your confidence in God and His Truth?
4. 2 Corinthians 10:3-5 highlights one of the keys to fighting spiritual battles. What is it, and how can we implement it in our lives? What else stands out to you in this passage?

### **Life Application**

5. Spiritual warfare can happen in different areas of our lives, but the one the enemy, or the devil, is very astute about influencing is our minds. The enemy knows that if he can affect your thoughts, he can affect your habits and, as a result, your behavior. Can you identify any lies that you believe today? How do those lies affect how you interact with God, others, and yourself?
6. What practical steps can we take to resist the devil as instructed in 1 Peter 5:9? How do you or can you incorporate these steps into your daily routine?
7. Can you recall a specific instance where you successfully "demolished a stronghold" or took thoughts "captive" as described in 2 Corinthians 10:3-5? What did you learn from those experiences that you can apply today?
8. End your time together in prayer, asking God for His insight and wisdom in uncovering any lies or strongholds the enemy is distracting or discouraging you with. Ask for God's strength to take every thought captive and make it obedient to Christ, relying on God's power and Truth for victory in your spiritual battles.