

GROWTH GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

THE WAR WE IGNORE

SERIES THEME//

Think about the way we make disciples: We teach truth to change thinking. We explain ethics, to influence behavior. We provide counseling to heal hearts and mend relationships. These practices are essential to discipleship, but they are not sufficient for life transformation. Scripture tells us that there is an unseen reality that impacts everything: the spiritual world of angels, demons, principalities and powers. What does the Bible reveal about this world? Do we influence it, and what role does it play in our lives? In our Gospel mission, we can never forget that God has included us in his plan to overthrow the Kingdom of Satan! This series will equip us to understand and take our place in this very real battle.

SERMON; PEACEFUL WARRIORS | 1 PETER 5:6-11

MAY 28, 2017

SERMON THEME// Even though we're at war, we can do battle with abiding peace.

LEADER//

We are calling out the works of the Devil during this sermon series. This means we are getting his attention, and by your Growth Group participating in this study, your group is also putting themselves in his crosshairs.

Understand this, acknowledge it, and be ready for his attack. Know that it will come into their lives and into your group. Pray for protection, clarity, and unity as your group moves through the weeds of this sermon series.

OPENING UP// *Start with prayer*

1. What has been something you've learned about "the dark side" during this sermon series?
2. How has that new lesson helped you to walk more faithfully with Jesus?
3. In what ways do you feel better equipped now that we've concluded this sermon series?

DIGGING DEEPER//

Humility is the pathway to victory. If our identity is rooted in our own power, Satan can steal it. If we define our worth by God's incredible worthiness, we become worshippers who can't be shaken.



1 PETER 5:6-11

[6] Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, [7] casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. [8] Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. [9] Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. [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. [11] To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

- Take a moment to pray over this text, asking God to use this text to continue to shape your life as you take the word *preached* and make it the word *lived*.
- Before we watch the sermon video, take a moment and have each person answer consider this question over a few moments of silence, but don't answer until after the video: *How have you suffered from being a Christian?*

SERMON DISCUSSION VIDEO//

- As you watch the sermon discussion video, take note of what you found intriguing or insightful as you hear Pastor Adam discuss the sermon he preached.

THE WORD PREACHED//

- Why does Scripture call the Devil a roaring lion? What is that supposed to teach us? And how have you seen this proven true in your life, or in the lives of those you love?
- In this sermon, Pastor Adam said that our enemy can't stop us unless we surrender. What are ways that we can surrender, or show surrender in our lives?
- What does it mean for a Christian to have a "sober mindset"? How are you working towards having a sober mindset?

THE WORD LIVED//

- How does God having "dominion" serve to embolden your faith?
- For this final section of this final sermon of this sermon series, we're going to discuss how we can go deeper in three key areas. In each of these we need to 1) challenge ourselves and 2) answer how we can help each other.
 - How can you go deeper in prayer?
 - How can you go deeper in spiritual relationships?



- How can you go deeper into the battlefield of living on mission?

CLOSE IN PRAYER//

LEADER//

As you close in prayer, this sermon series discussion will definitely benefit from an extra measure of prayer. Pray for protection for your group and your group's families, pray for Peace Church as we enter into a time of looking at this subject more closely, and pray for the pastors as they immerse themselves in this material to preach better sermons.

