

THE DEVIL GOES TO CHURCH – LESSON 6

Lesson 6: The Battleground of Doubt

Satan comes against the Church in four ways: Doubt, Deception, Discouragement and Division. In this lesson you will see the ways Satan uses doubt to damage believers.

In this lesson you will explore:

- the clear ways in which Satan attacks the Church.
- how Satan uses doubt to undermine the Word of God.
- how Satan uses doubt to undermine the love of God.

Reading:

- The Devil Goes to Church – Chapter 5, pgs. 58 – top of pg. 60

Watch Video for Lesson 6

Discussion Questions:

1. Why do you believe that Satan hates the Church?
2. Do you think doubt is a major issue in your church today? Why or why not?
3. How do you see Satan attacking the truth of God's Word today?

Spend Time in Prayer

We overcome doubt with faith. Satan wants to make us doubt all that God has said we are in and through Him. Consider this quote from Henri Nouwen as you prepare to pray:

What the Father said to Jesus the Son, God also says to us: "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased" (Luke 3: 22 NRSV). Dear friends, I want you to hear this: what is said of Jesus is said of you. I know this can be hard to affirm. You are the beloved daughter or son of God. Can you believe it? Can you hear it not only in your head through your physical ears but in your gut, hear it so that your whole life can be turned around? Go to the scriptures and read: "I have loved you with an everlasting love. I have written your name in the palm of my hand from all eternity. I have molded you in the depths of the earth and knitted you in your mother's womb. I love you. I embrace you. You are mine and I am yours and you belong to me." You have to hear this, because if you can hear this divine voice speak to you from all eternity, then your life will become more and more the life of the beloved, because that is who you are. When you start believing this, this spiritual knowledge will grow until it transforms your daily life. You will still have rejections and you will still have pain and losses, but you will live them no longer as a person searching for his or her identity. You will live them as the beloved. You will live your pain and anguish, your successes and failures, as one who knows who you are. And that's not easy. Most of us constantly fail to claim the truth of who we truly are.

— Discernment: Reading the Signs of Daily Life by Henri J. M. Nouwen

With one or two other people, share one doubt you have about yourself, how you perceive others feel about you, or even how you think God feels about you.

Now, using this quote from Nouwen to voice your prayers, pray for each other to “know” that each of you is God’s “beloved” son or daughter.