

Offensive Strategies

Message Handout

1 Peter 5:8–9 (NLT) - 8 Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour. 9 Stand firm against him, and be strong in your faith. Remember that your family of believers all over the world is going through the same kind of suffering you are.

Ephesians 6:12–13 (NLT) - 12 For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places. 13 Therefore, put on every piece of God's armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm.

Revelation 12:7–9 (NLT) - 7 Then there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon and his angels. 8 And the dragon lost the battle, and he and his angels were forced out of heaven. 9 This great dragon—the ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, the one deceiving the whole world—was thrown down to the earth with all his angels.

We need to acknowledge that:

- There is a spiritual war
- The war is against God
 - It's a war against His authority and rule
 - It's a war against His purposes
 - It's a war against those He loves
- WE ARE IN THE WAR!

Four point of offense against the devil:

1. We UNIFY

1. The devil and disunity

1. From the beginning, the devil's strategy is to **divide** - Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel.
2. He is the author of confusion, chaos, and offense.
3. HIS GREATEST WEAPON IS DIVISION
4. We see his strategy and respond with UNITY!

2. **1 Corinthians 1:10 (NLT)** — 10 I appeal to you, dear brothers and sisters, by the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ, to live in harmony with each other. Let there be no divisions in the church. Rather, be of one mind, united in thought and purpose.
3. How do I unify
 1. **Show up!**
 2. **Let go!**
 3. **Focus!**

2. We MOBILIZE

1. "The local church *mobilized* is the hope of the world."
2. What has to happen for us to mobilize?
 1. We must **understand authority**.
 2. We must **understand the mission**.
 3. We must **all do something**.

3. We EVANGELIZE

1.
 1. Spiritual war is over territory.
 2. All spiritual authority has been given to Christ.
 1. **Colossians 2:14–15 (NLT)** — 14 He canceled the record of the charges against us and took it away by nailing it to the cross. 15 In this way, he disarmed the spiritual rulers and authorities. He shamed them publicly by his victory over them on the cross.
 2. We must proclaim the news that He is Lord!
 3. The spiritual "tug-of-war" - Every soul added to the Kingdom of God is SPIRITUAL WARFARE.

4. We WORSHIP

1. All of this spiritual war is over one word - **WORSHIP**.
2. **Luke 4:5–8 (NLT)** — 5 Then the devil took him up and revealed to him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. 6 "I will give you the glory of these kingdoms and authority over them," the devil said, "because they are mine to give to anyone I please. 7 I will give it all to you if you will worship me." 8 Jesus replied, "The Scriptures say, 'You must worship the LORD your God and serve only him.'"
3. If we want to be offensive to the enemy, we must worship.
 1. Bow down
 2. Surrender
 3. Sing the praises of God before the enemies of God.