

"AUTHORITY OVER THE ENEMY"

Zoe Christian Fellowship of Whittier
Bishop Edward A. Smith

INTRODUCTION TO LESSON

Life Group Lesson Objective: To understand our authority as a believer that Jesus gave all believers.

Life Group Leader Lesson:

"AUTHORITY OVER THE ENEMY" - Luke 10:19 (NKJV)

THE ENEMY Gen 3:1 – 14

1. Subtle (crafty, elusive, clever, devious, tricky, cunning, slick)
2. Created by God,
3. Always questions God's commands and authority,
4. Liar
5. Tempts with pleasure to the senses,
6. God cursed him

- Deceiver of the whole world – Rev 12:9
- Accuser of the Brethren – Rev 12:10
- Inflicts disease – Job 2:7
- He has children – (Tares) Matt 13:24-30
- He's a thief – John 10:10

“Behold I give you power and authority over all the power that the enemy possesses and nothing shall by any means shall hurt you.” – Jesus Christ

WEEK #1 – Believers Authority - Don't be ignorant of Satan's devices

Discussion Question: What are some of the devices of Satan? (search scriptures)

1. Sickness/disease
2. Fear
3. Hatred
4. Forgiveness
5. Poverty
6. Witchcraft
7. Racial prejudice
8. Pride
9. Lack or ignorance of God's purpose for your life
10. Insecure about who you are in Christ
11. Not understanding “there is a good fight to fight”
12. God doesn't love you

2 Cor 2:11 - lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices. ...so, that Satan will not outsmart us. For we are familiar with his evil schemes. (NLT)

Authority – (Exousia Gk) permission of ability, strength, power: the right to exercise power.

Jesus told his disciples “Behold I give you the authority over all the power of the enemy”
– Luke 10:19

Luke 9:1-2 – Jesus called His disciples together and gave them power and authority over all demons, and to cure diseases. NKJV

1. Eg. Peter said such as I have, I give to you...in the name of Jesus rise and walk.
 - a. Acts 3:1-8, Lame man healed

Peter used his spiritual authority to set the man free from bondage, so that he could walk.

Spiritual warfare is a fight against an invisible enemy, we don't see him but we recognize his works. When we recognize the works of the enemy.... we cast them down through healing, giving....

- Flesh must bow down to the name of Jesus
- Anything that is not of God must

2 Corinthians 10:3-6 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled.

Week #2 – Believer’s Authority over the enemy

Discussion Question:

Every believer receives this authority when we are born again...

- 2 Peter 1:3 – as His divine power has given to us all things that *pertain* to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue,
- And Satan will do everything he can to keep Christians from learning the truth about their authority.
- We need to know what belongs to us. Jesus said, "*And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free*" (John 8:32).

In Hosea God says, "*My people [not sinners, not the world] are destroyed for lack of knowledge....*" (Hosea 4:6). People perish who wouldn't have to.

- Mark 4:15.... Satan comes immediately to seal the word that was sown in the hearts of the believer....
- Matthew 28:18 is another verse where the word "authority" is used should. It should read, "ALL AUTHORITY is given unto me in heaven and in earth." (NKJV)
 - “now you go in the same authority”
- Jesus said, “. He *that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father*" (John 14:12).
- Jesus didn't say that only a select few would do these works; He said those who believe on Him would.
- As we continue to study what the Word of God teaches about the authority of the believer, we'll be able to walk in truth more and more.

Week #3 – Believer’s Authority – Exercise Your Authority

Discussion Question: Give an example of exercising your spiritual authority

Speak to the mountain.....Jesus is expecting us to speak to the mountain, he is expecting us to lay hands on the sick, he is expecting us to cast out demons...He is in heaven, if we don't do use our authority it won't get done.

- Acts 1:8 - But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

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People are being influenced and controlled and used by the devil. It may be the person sitting next to you at work, it may be your neighbor, and may be child, your husband or your wife. Anyone who is not paying attention or aware of the enemy’s tactics can be influenced by Satan to come against you. When we recognize that, it would make a big difference in the way we respond to them. It doesn’t mean they are “possessed” by a demon but they may be influenced by spiritual wickedness.

Debt and financial bondage
Bad habits that can’t be broken
Can’t let go of past mistakes or relationships
Continuing to make the same mistakes

The believer is told to do something about the devil. The reason is because you have the authority to do it. The Church is not to pray to God the Father about the devil; the Church is to exercise the authority that belongs to it.

"The New Testament tells believers themselves to do something about the devil. The least member of the Body of Christ has just as much power over the devil as anyone else, and unless believers do something about the devil, nothing will be done in a lot of areas." ----Kenneth Hagin "The Believer’s Authority"

Week #4 – There is a spiritual war going on, and as a believer, you must be aware of it.

Group Discussion Question: Discuss any spiritual war you may be experiencing, how are you using your authority?

One of the tactics of the enemy to have Christians think that some believers have more power than others...THAT IS A LIE...

James 4:7 says, “Submit **yourselves** therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from **you**.”

Ephesians 6:10-12 reads, Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. **Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.** For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

Take your Authority as a believer personal

God is not a respecter of persons...

Meditate on these verses, make them personal to you...and experience the Word come alive in your spirit...

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...and nothing shall by any means hurt you – Luke 10:19

...And no weapon against you shall prosper – Isa 54:17

.... You will also declare a thing, and it shall be established – Job 22:28

Ephesians 1:19-23 (NKJV)

..... and what *is* the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated *Him* at His right hand in the heavenly *places*, far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. And He put all *things* under His feet, and gave Him *to be* head over all *things* to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

We're His Body so all things are under our feet!