

Discussion Guide: Our Adversary the Devil - Part 2

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Acts 2:42 (NIV)

March 2, 2003: "Our Adversary the Devil - 2" by Pastor Kimber Kauffman, Senior Pastor College Park Church. Pastor continued his series on Our Adversary the Devil with a subtitle for his sermon today of "Peter's Fear" based on 1 Peter 5:8-9:

Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings. 1 Peter 5:8-9 (NIV)

Peter knew first hand of the dangers before fellow believers. He knew what it was like to fail and he encouraged fellow Christians on what they should do to avoid falling into the same trap. By the grace of God, Peter was forgiven for his falling away, encouraged by Jesus after His resurrection, and empowered by the Holy Spirit to boldly proclaim what they had seen and heard and experienced first hand.

Pastor pointed out that Satan, the greatest creature God made, became so filled with pride that he wanted God's creatures to worship him and as a result was cast down out of heaven taking 1/3 of the angels with him. So he has at his disposal a vast demonic host doing his bidding. Make no mistake, Satan is on a mission to destroy you.

General Discussion Questions by Eugene & Joanne Kimble:

1. How did this sermon minister to you? (a blessing, encouragement, admonition, etc.)
2. What new insight did you receive from the Scripture passage?
3. What illustration stood out and why?
4. What question(s) did the sermon raise in your mind?
5. Were you able this week to apply some particular part of the sermon?
6. Tell us how you have been edified, strengthened and built up in your spiritual nature by the sermon.
7. Does taking notes during the sermon influence how you listen, help you to understand better, help you to keep your attention focused?

Specific Discussion Questions by John & Marilyn Spilker:

- Why was Peter so fearful of what might happen to his fellow Christians?
- Have you ever had a feeling that someone was out to destroy you? If yes, what was it like? What did you do in response to the situation?
- As you reflect upon your life, can you recall any subtle thoughts, attitudes or actions that might have had demonic forces as their source? If yes, was it something that occurred recently, or in the past? Tell us a little about your experiences.
- What do you "intentionally" do to keep alert and protect yourself from the forces of evil that so pervade the world in which we live?
- What do you do when you sense you are under attack?