

Lesson Five *Satan's Strategy in the Church*

... Upon this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.
--Matthew 16:18

It comes as a shock to some people to discover that Satan goes to church.
--Warren Wiersbe

*Forgiveness is not a feeling. It is a decision to quit holding something against someone.
When we forgive we must release them and forget it.*
--believers.org

"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"
--Psalm 133:1

***Pray right now that the Lord would purify your heart as you complete this study, and
that He would reveal exactly what He has for you in this lesson.***

Read II Peter 2:20-21

1. Why does Satan try so hard to "trip up" Christians?

Read Proverbs 14:3, 5 and 17:20, James 3:3-12, and Psalm 5:9, 34:13, and 39:1

2. Much is written about the tongue's ability to "tear down." How can useless talk/murmuring be catastrophic in a church?

Read Matthew 7:1-5 and Romans 14:9-13

3. What should we **avoid** doing to other Christians?

MEMORY VERSE FOR THIS WEEK:

*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.*

—Ephesians 6:12

Read Romans 14:19, Hebrews 12:14, and Matthew 5:9

4. What should we make every effort to do?

Read Romans 15:1-2 and 15:7; and I Thessalonians 5:11

5. Why is a church community important?

Read John 13:35; Matthew 6:12-15, 18:35; Mark 11:25-26; Colossians 3:12-13; Ephesians 4:15, 4:32-5:2

6. How are we to *be* toward our brothers and sisters-in-Christ?

Read Romans 13:1-2

7. How are we to *be* toward our church leadership?

Read Romans 16:17-19 and I Corinthians 1:10

8. What does Paul warn of in these scriptures?

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Digging Deeper (optional for those who want to delve more into the Word):

Read I Corinthians 1:18-2:16

-- What is Paul talking about here? What kind of wisdom should Christians have?

Read II Corinthians 11:14 and Matthew 7:15-23

--What is one of Satan's disguises? What does Paul mean by this? What are the ramifications of such disguises?

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