

**Learning How to Fight a Spiritual Enemy**  
***Responding to Satan's Influence***  
**Part 4**  
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Pastor Dale Satrum



## **1. We Must Win the Battle for Our Mind**

- Plan A is your commitment to live by \_\_\_\_\_  
*Isaiah 55:9 "For just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so my ways are higher than your ways and my thoughts higher than your thoughts." (NLT=New Living Translation)*  
*Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take." (NLT)*  
*Luke 9:23 "If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross daily, and follow me." (NLT)*  
*I Corinthians 1:25 "This foolish plan of God is wiser than the wisest of human plans..." (NLT)*
- Plan B is your rationalization to pursue the \_\_\_\_\_  
*Romans 1:25 "They traded the truth about God for a lie. So they worshiped and served the things God created instead of the Creator himself..." (NLT)*  
*I John 2:15 "Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you." (NLT)*

## **2. Recognize the Source of Plan B thinking**

- The world and the \_\_\_\_\_  
*I John 2:15-17 "Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. <sup>16</sup>For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father, but are from this world. <sup>17</sup>And this world is fading away, along with everything that people crave. But anyone who does what pleases God will live forever." (NLT)*  
*Galatians 5:16-17 "But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. <sup>17</sup>For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do." (ESV=English Standard Version)*
- Satan and his \_\_\_\_\_

## **3. Recognize the strongholds in your mind**

- What are strongholds?  
Strongholds are knee-jerk reactions, behaviors, attitudes, thoughts and emotions that are contrary to the word of God.  
*Ephesians 4:26-27 "And "don't sin by letting anger control you." Don't let the sun go down while you are still angry, <sup>27</sup>for anger gives a foothold to the devil." (NLT)*
- How do strongholds get established?

2 Corinthians 10:3-5 “For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. <sup>4</sup> The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. <sup>5</sup> We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.” (NIV=New International Version)

#### 4. Develop a Winning Strategy to Overcome Satan’s Influence

- Practice \_\_\_\_\_ your mind  
*Romans 12:2 “Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God’s will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.” (NLT)*
- Prepare your mind for \_\_\_\_\_  
*1 Peter 1:13 “So prepare your minds for action and exercise self-control.” (NLT)*
- Learn to take your thoughts \_\_\_\_\_  
*2 Corinthians 10:5 “We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ.” (ESV)*
- Pray when you struggle  
*Philippians 4:6 “Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done.” (NLT)*
- Take the battle \_\_\_\_\_  
*Ephesians 6:10-11 “A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. <sup>11</sup> Put on all of God’s armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil.” (NLT)*
- Develop relational connections  
*Ecclesiastes 4:12 “A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken.” (NLT)*
- Confession and repentance  
*James 5:16 “Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed...” (NLT)*



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#### Discussion Questions:

1. What has God been showing you through this series?
2. Have some honest conversations about how committed we really are to Plan A or Plan B. Remember, our commitment is a behavior issue not a belief issue.
3. Discuss the sources of Plan B thinking. Where do you see it in your own life?
4. Discuss strongholds: What are they and how do they get established? Does it bother you to think we all have them?
5. Seven ways were given on how we can develop a winning strategy against our spiritual enemy. Discuss each one and share how you can grow in these specific behaviors.