

The Enemy: War Without and Within

Session Ten, The Family Project

Introduction

Church Chat

Video (30 min.)

Why do we even have an enemy? What does he have against us?

God will use the family as the vehicle for the enemy's undoing. (Gen 3)

Rev. 12: "that ancient serpent"

Satan hates the family because it is God's _____ and it showcases His image and love.

Is this going too far or right on? "The enemy of the family is the enemy of God."

Go high, go low. Satan wants to make humanity as either _____ unto themselves or as _____ with no self-control or special capacity. But we bear God's image!

The devil is not omnipresent, so who's on his team? Who's to blame?

Worldviews and the reshaping of minds

Why do we consume so much and still feel hungry?

"The world is the enemy least difficult to conquer, the devil is the hardest to understand, but the flesh is the most tenacious."

It's too easy to blame. The problem is not just out there! It's _____ .

Deon on Skid Row: "This is where I work. This is where God called me to be. I believe that with my whole heart... I try to look at people the way God looks at people... I want to show I love them and I want to help make their lives better... Some have problems, severe problem, but they're people... Get to know the people... People will see you for who you are, not what you are. They know I am for them... Don't let them go."

Jesus calls us to _____ to ourselves.

"I'm not happy." Five years later...

God designed marriage to be the _____ for the child. Is there such a thing as a good divorce?

Scripture

“For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power.”

–2 Timothy 3:2-5

Galatians 5:16-26

Matthew 16:24-25

Romans 7:15-20

Ephesians 6:10-18

1 Peter 5:8

What Do You Think?

- 1) The video session says that love of self is the family's greatest enemy. How is that self-centeredness demonstrated in family life?
- 2) What happens to a family made up of self-seeking individuals? Any anecdotes you can share from experience or personal observations?
- 3) How does “the world” encourage individualism and self-centeredness? What are some of the pleasures we are told by our culture to seek after?
- 4) What's the opposite of self-centeredness? How is self-centeredness contrary to God's nature?
- 5) How can one unselfish family member influence everyone in the home? Any stories to tell?
- 6) What's behind most divorces, including those involving Christians? Does love keep a marriage together, or does selfless commitment to the marriage keep us growing in love? Explain.

Wrap-up

We have an enemy. But he is a defeated enemy. Christ who has overcome calls to us and guides us in the way of selflessness and love.