

## Weapons of Warfare [Lesson 1 of 2]



**Scripture:** *2 Corinthians 10:4 For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;...*

*John 18:10 Then Simon Peter having a sword drew it, and smote the high priest's servant, and cut off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus.*

*Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*

### Introduction:

Peter is well known as the disciple that pretended he did not know Jesus at the trial the night before Jesus was crucified. He lied and then the rooster crowed three times. We hear that sad story around Easter time.

What we don't pay much attention to is that this is the man that also pulled the sword out of its sheath and cut off the ear of the high priest's servant at the arrest of Jesus at the Garden of Gethsemane.

Peter was ready to do battle; he was ready to get into a fight to defend the Lord!

Peter had spent over three years traveling with Jesus, learning and observing everything that He did. He saw the miracles that Jesus did, but more importantly he learned who Jesus was, that is, the Son of God Himself.

We can learn MUCH from Peter's experience.

### Know your enemy:

#### THE BIBLE INSTRUCTS US THAT THERE ARE AT LEAST THREE DISTINCT SPIRITUAL ENEMIES.

- The Devil

*1 Peter 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:*

*Luke 22:31 And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat:*

#### THERE IS NO DOUBT WHO THE ENEMY OF SIMON PETER WAS.

And as you might imagine, Peter was actually targeted by Satan. This could be because Satan saw Jesus pick out Peter as a disciple; he saw Peter was not afraid to be "bold," that is, speak his mind and be forceful about speaking about Jesus. Satan hated that.

*1 Peter 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:*

Peter tells us that the Devil is a real being; he is not a fairy tale or a character like in a storybook.

#### **TEACHER side note:**

*We have an Excalibur sword that we use often in these messages. If you have access to a sword; then this is a great message to use it with. A visual goes a long way in focusing this age group.*

*Suggested visuals: Sword and a Bible*

*Weapons of Warfare can be presented in two lessons. An easy break is suggested after completing the heading: "Know your enemy."*

But the thing to remember is that the devil can't be everywhere all the time. He is not "omnipresent" like God is. That means the Devil can only be in one place at a time. So most likely he isn't going to be the enemy you have to be concerned with at age 4, 5, & 6.

- **The World**

*1 John 2:15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world.*

"The world" means this present system of evil round about us. This includes the evil people of the world, as well as the things of the world. It is EASY to get caught up in the world.

While there is nothing wrong with ball teams, roping events, or sports in and of themselves, they all too quickly lead us into a "world" thinking mentality where these things mean more to us, and achievement in these things means more to us, and attendance and loyalty to a "team" means more to us rather than the things of God being the most important.

- **The Flesh**

*Romans 7:18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.*

The Bible teaches that the flesh is fallen human nature, the carnal nature that natural men and women have inherited from their fallen parents. The flesh is a bigger enemy to us personally than the world.

When you consistently disobey parents or leadership; when you have a bad spirit and attitude, this is what the Bible means by the "flesh" being our enemy.

Our sin nature is a continual battle.

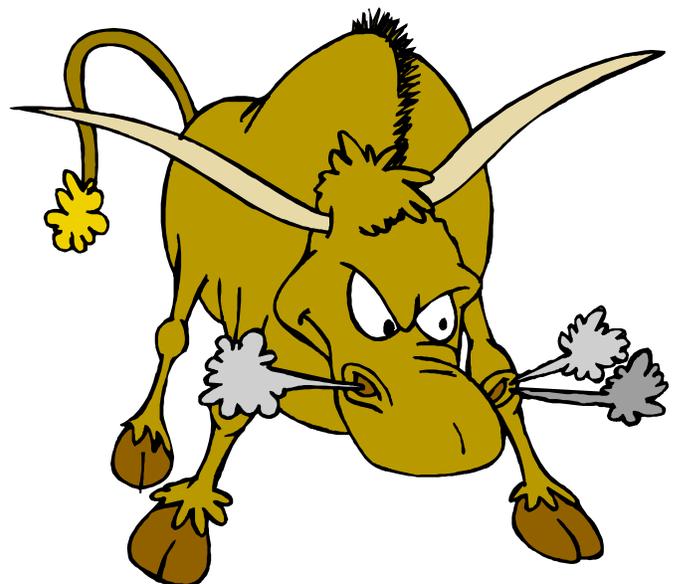
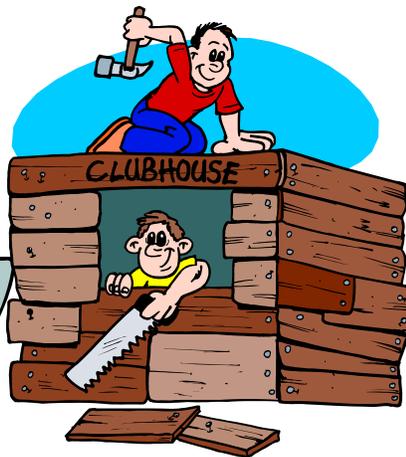
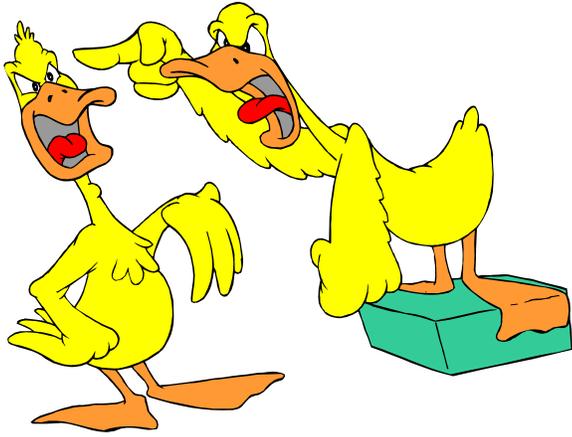
When we are more concerned about "SELF" and everything has to be about yourself, then you have a "flesh" problem and it is a spiritual enemy.

At your age your spiritual warfare is more likely to be with "yourself" and how you fit into the big picture. Some examples of your enemy would be:

- Selfishness
- Anger
- ME FIRST

**Activity: Worksheet follows.**

**Teacher read:** We are in a Spiritual Warfare. You can see an example of spiritual warfare every time people are together. Sometimes the Enemy wins and sometimes people do the Right thing and go with what God says to do. Which way should you act? Circle the correct ways to act.



## Weapons of Warfare [Lesson 2 of 2]



**Scripture:** *2 Corinthians 10:4 For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;...*

*John 18:10 Then Simon Peter having a sword drew it, and smote the high priest's servant, and cut off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus.*

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### Common Weapons of Spiritual warfare or how to FIX this:

**JUST BECAUSE YOU PICK OUT A WEAPON, DOES NOT MAKE IT THE WEAPON OF CHOICE FOR THE JOB.**

Just because you throw a saddle on a horse, doesn't make it the right saddle for the job or the horse or the rider for that matter. An English saddle won't get the job done at a roping; and a heavy western saddle won't get the job done at a jumping either.

You have to have the right weapon for the task at hand. So, how do you know how to handle the battle, the enemy?

What is the right approach? **A PRAYERFUL LIFESTYLE IS ONE OF THE BEST CHOICES.**

Consistent PERSONAL prayer is the key! Whether you pray once the lights are out and you are lying on your bed every night or if you pray the first thing you do when you wake up or both times, any prayer time will lead you to live with more of an understanding of what is right and what is wrong.

Caring about what JESUS thinks or wants instead of just what I or You want is a great start to spiritual warfare at your age. These two weapons are very important:

- PRAYER
- OBEDIENCE

Peter started out impulsive in his choice of weapons. His choice of spiritual weaponry was not effective.

He attacked with the sword in the Garden. But in just a few short years you see him matured as a Christian leader.

He no longer is speaking before he thinks, and that assuredly took some effort on his part as he was prone to speaking his mind.

### Peter's advice concerning Effective Weapons of Warfare:

*2 Corinthians 10: 3-4 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds ;)*

And in Peter's own words:

*1 Peter 5:8-10 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world. But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.*

**Activity:** Worksheet Follows



**COLOR &  
Discuss:**

Peter chose the **WRONG** weapon of warfare the first time: What did he choose?

Later on he chose the right weapon. What did he choose?