

## Facing the Powers of Hell

Scott Hansen, Lead Pastor December 2, 2012

Lesson Aim: To learn more about the reality of Jesus' power and authority over Satan and his demonic forces.

**Prayer:** Ask the Holy Spirit to lead your personal study time and/or discussion.

Icebreaker: Who was one of your best teachers? What made that teacher so good?

- 1. Sunday's message focused on the power and authority Jesus has over Satan and demons. Is there anything specific that helped shape your view of the devil when you were young?
- 2. How has your view of the devil changed over the years?
- 3. Looking over your notes (and especially at the section "Sidebar on Demonic Activity"), was there anything surprising about how Pastor Scott described who Satan and demons are and what they are capable of doing? If so, what was it?
- 4. **READ Luke 4:31-37.** What stands out to you most about the behavior of the evil spirit? Why?
- 5. How does Jesus display His authority over Satan and demons in this story?
- 6. The people in this story are astonished at the authority Jesus displays here. How has Jesus' authority grabbed your attention recently?
- 7. What do the following verses tell us about who the devil is and how he likes to operate?
  - John 8:44:
  - Acts 13:9-10:
  - 1 Peter 5:8:
- 8. We need to be aware of the devil and his schemes but not afraid of him. How could the following verses encourage you to not worry about the devil being too powerful to resist?
  - James 4:7-8:
  - 1 John 4:4:
- 9. **READ Romans 16:20 & 1 John 3:8.** When it comes to spiritual battle, we need to depend on God's power. Is there any place in your life where you may be depending too much on your own power and not enough on God's power?
- 10. What are some things that might be of help to you in depending more on God's power?

Close in prayer as the Lord leads you.

This **LifeGroup** Study Guide is designed to help you apply Sunday's message. You can do this homework on your own; however we encourage you to check out our warm and friendly message-based **LifeGroups**! Get a copy of this Study Guide at theBridgeFresno.com by clicking on the "Resources" link.

## 30A.D.

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Luke 4:31 - 37

## INTRODUCTION

▶ John 3:8 - The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work.

| PRINCIPLE #1: If you are trying to do God's, y   | ou will take        | from |
|--|---------------------|------|
| THE SCENE (Luke 4:31-33a)  |                     |      |
| <b>▶0</b>  |                     |      |
| PRINCIPLE #2: Be in ministry serve where it will   |                     |      |
| THE CONTEXT – PUBLIC (Luke 4:31,32;  | cf. Matthew 7:28,29 | 9)   |
| THE (Luke 4:33-34) [SIDEBAR ON DEMONIC ACTIVITY]   |                     |      |
| <ul> <li>▶ Angels, good &amp; evil, really exist</li> <li>▶ Evil angels = fallen angels / evil spirits / unclean spirits / demons</li> <li>▶ Before the creation of the world (and mankind), God created a fixed number of angels (Mark 12:25; Luke 20:36)</li> <li>▶ One of God's guardian angels (Lucifer) rebelled (Isaiah 14:12-15; Ezekiel 28:11-17)</li> <li>▶ Lucifer (Satan) led 1/3 of the angels to rebel with him against God (Job 4:18; Revelation 12:4)</li> <li>▶ Satan &amp; his angels were defeated &amp; cast out of heaven to earth (Revelation 12:7-10, 12)</li> <li>▶ Satan led the first human beings astray through lies, deception &amp; seductive temptations (Genesis 3:1-7)</li> <li>▶ When Adam &amp; Eve sinned against God, they fell from their state of innocence (Genesis 3:7-9)</li> <li>▶ They were separated from God &amp; cast out of the Garden of Eden (Genesis 3:22-24)</li> <li>▶ The entire earth &amp; human race fell under the effects of the curse (Romans 5:12; 8:19-21)</li> <li>▶ Jesus came to destroy the devil's work &amp; take back mankind's dominion of the earth (1 John 3:8)</li> <li>▶ Satan &amp; all demonic forces were defeated by Christ at the cross (Colossians 2:15)</li> <li>▶ Satan &amp; all demonic forces are already doomed &amp; will be cast into the Lake of Fire (Matthew 25:41; Rev. 20:10)</li> <li>▶ There are times when God still permits evil spirits to invade humanity</li> <li>▶ We are commanded to submit to God &amp; resist all demonic activity (Ephesians 6:10-18; James 4:7)</li> <li>▶ Only in Christ can human beings have victory over demonic forces (Revelation 12:11)</li> </ul> |                     |      |
| ● The demon Jesus' true  |                     |      |
| ● The demon was of Jesus   |                     |      |
| ● The demon was looking for (cf. Luke 8:31; 2 Pe   | eter 2:4; Jude 6)   |      |
| RESPONSE (Luke 4:35; cf. Luke 4:41)  |                     |      |
| PRINCIPLE #3: Jesus has  | over the            | of   |
| THE RESPONSE (Luke 4:36)   |                     |      |
| RESPONSE   |                     |      |