

BEHIND ENEMY LINES

Text: Luke 12:1-12

Our text is encouraging us to Go Behind The Enemy Lines by:

1. DECIDING WHOSE _____ YOU ARE _____?
2. DON'T BE AFRAID TO _____ THE
_____!
3. _____ AND ALLOW GOD TO _____ YOU!

April 7 & 8, 2018

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Life Group Lesson

Week of April 8

Jesus was clear when He spoke to His disciples on the night before His crucifixion: “If the world hates you, remember that it hated me first” (John 15:18). Just as Jesus was about to suffer, there would be suffering ahead for them, as well. Making the choice to follow Christ, to align our lives with Christ, will cost us something. This fallen world is dominated by the ‘prince of darkness’ and in direct opposition to the ways of God. Since the first sin (the Fall of Adam and Eve), forces of darkness have sought to bring down (discredit, dismantle, destroy) all that God has created—including the ‘crowning glory of His creation.’

Jesus said, “The time is coming when everything that is covered up will be revealed, and all that is secret will be made known to all. Whatever you have said in the dark will be heard in the light, and what you have whispered behind closed doors will be shouted from the housetops for all to hear!” (Luke 12:2-3). This sounds a lot like what Jesus said earlier: “For all that is secret will eventually be brought into the open, and everything that is concealed will be brought to light and made known to all” (Luke 8:17).

Read Luke 12:1-12

1. What we speak matters because it reveals what is in our hearts (in the secret place). Gossip gives a foothold to the devil. Either our words build up the army of Christ, or they are bringing it down. Whose side are you on, *really*?

Take an inventory of your words (and thoughts!) over the last 7 days. Who is being encouraged by your words? Who is being slandered by your words? Stop and ask the Lord right now to uproot bitter words from your heart so that you can get on mission.

We cannot live two lives, projecting one thing in the daylight and another in secret. Either we are on the side of Christ and focused on His Kingdom, or we are in opposition.

2. Jesus said, “Dear friends, don’t be afraid of those who want to kill your body; they cannot do any more to you after that.” Who should we fear according to Luke 12:5?

God loves you and wants you to be saved. He is slow to anger and abundantly merciful. But one day His anger will be poured out upon all evil and wickedness. As Moses said, “your fear of Him will keep you from sinning” (Exodus 20:20), so remember that God is God and you are not. Are you connecting with God (through the Person of Jesus Christ) or religion?

3. Just as religion won’t save you, religion will not equip you for the battle. Read Ephesians 6:10-18 and outline how you can be equipped for battle, a faithful soldier Behind Enemy Lines.

“For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline” (2 Timothy 1:7).

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