

Satan Hates You And Has A Horrible Plan For Your Life

Purpose of Meeting: This meeting is to point out the truth of Ephesians 6:12, even for young people. To show them that Satan is alive and living in their neighborhood, ready to claim any victories that would be given him. Information and discussion are the goals of this meeting. It is **not** a "how to" study.

Getting Set:

1. Have someone prepared to lead the flow of the meeting to be sure things keep moving.
2. A blackboard or whiteboard should be set for the feedback that will be received from the "Deceiver Discussion."
3. Additional or alternate activities should be decided in advance.

Actual Meeting:

Open the time in the manner you are used to, then go into some crowdbreaker games, focusing on games that "beat the devil."

Deceiver Discussion --

Share the following story with your group and then lead in a short discussion.

"Two of Satan's workers had just come back from trying to confuse the people on earth. The task was difficult. Satan had sent them out to convince people that there was no God. One messenger reported, 'They could see His handiwork everywhere!' The other messenger reminded them that it was also no use to try to convince people that they didn't need God, since their need was obvious.

After much thinking, Satan suggested to wait for the perfect deception: 'Let's convince man that God exists and he needs God, but can wait until later before giving himself to God.'

Satan's plan worked beautifully."

Discussion: Does Satan really think that this will work today?

- What reasons do most people give for waiting to meet God?
- What other lies does Satan expect us to believe?

(That I shouldn't take religion too seriously; that I can't do anything about my school, friends, church, town; etc. List them on the blackboard.)

Satan Study --

The following are areas about which Satan lies regarding your life, in addition to the truth from God!

1. *Satan Wants You . . . Destroyed! (1 Peter 5:8,9)*

It is Satan's desire for your life that you will follow his lies to the completion - which is absolute destruction; Hell. Satan's lies are attractive and therefore need true resistance. But his lies bring only temporary pleasure and end in eternal pain. God wants you to have the best of this life (John 10:10) and eternal life as well (2 Peter 3:9; 1 Timothy 2:4).

2. *Satan Wants You . . . Opposing God (Ephesians 4:30)*

Ephesians was written to "the saints at Ephesus," believers in Jesus Christ. But in chapter four, we see that their lives and the lives of their Christian family members were an embarrassment to the Lord. This causes grief for the Spirit of God, who convicts us of sin and keeps us protected for Christ. Satan, of course, wants to embarrass Jesus Christ through you. He wants non-believers to use you for an excuse. God wants every believer to be sensitive to the Spirit of God and do what pleases Him the most (contrast Galatians 5:16-21 with 22-26).

3. *Satan Wants You . . . Living Riotously*

The old "eat, drink, and be merry" philosophy was started by you know who. And believers over the ages have fallen for it. That is why Paul wrote Romans 6 (along with umpteen other chapters on the subject). Romans 6 answers these questions and attitudes:

a) Should we sin to show how nice and forgiving God is? Paul's answer - hogwash! (vv. 1,2)

b) Should we "do our own thing" since Christ has set us free from enslavement? Paul's answer - garbage! (v. 15)

Satan wants you to blend into the world's mold - Jesus wants you to break it!

4. *Satan Wants You . . . Being Pushy*

Probably one of the greatest tricks today is the catchy little phrase - "I've got my rights." Where is that written in the Bible? Only as seen in the lives of those rebelling against God. Cain had the right to worship God on his terms - so he killed his brother. Saul had the right to run his country his way - so he attempted to murder David and resorted to witch craft. Judas had a right to do as he pleased, so he plotted the death of Jesus. I have the right to drive up this street no matter how many children, old ladies, dogs, or cats I run over in the process.

Fortunately, God has a better idea - Philippians 2:3,4 - require everyone to memorize these two verses!

5. *Satan Wants You . . . Depressed*

Satan has called you to be a "self-appointed martyr." As you suffer for Christ (and if you take a stand, you just might suffer for Him), Satan wants you to feel depressed and want to quit. It worked on Jonah (chapter 4); he hated to see revival among his enemies. It worked on Elijah; he was afraid of circumstances. It will work on you, if you do not keep your eyes straight on Jesus Christ in every circumstance of your life. Jesus has promised us cross-bearing (Matthew 16:24-28) and James assures us that these are experiences that can be used for building ourselves up (James 1:2,4). Paul challenges us to use these tests to help others in time of need (2 Corinthians 1:3,4). But Satan wants you to be depressed in every one of life's crises and to be defeated.

The Captivating Conclusion --

Do you really want to be dramatic and make an impression? Well, if so use this idea: Have someone, perhaps a leader, well-prepared in advance to come out to the program at the appropriate time. The program leader can say something like this: "Satan wants us because he hates us and he wants us to live in the same misery that he faces for all of eternity."

Then have your person come out: all messed up, with soot, the smell of smoke all over him, and a giant chain that will only allow him to roam the room.

The leader could say something to the effect that this characterizes the one who is playing for control of your life. Anything that separates you from total commitment to Jesus Christ is a victory for Satan.

If done effectively and seriously, this can have quite an impact.

Close the meeting with a time of prayer. Perhaps have several students chosen in advance to lead in a time of prayer of greater personal trust of Christ. Allow for others to do so as well.