

Spiritual Warfare Workshop Presentation Notes
Dr. Gerry Breshears
International Students, Inc. National Conference
Sunday, June 23, 2019

www.breshears.net (click on "Spiritual Warfare Resources")

Red flags:

- Accusing voices
- Oppressive presences
- Occultic involvement

Asking exploratory questions = looking at it in the name of Jesus

"We have lots of nasty self-talk. Is this self-talk or something else?"

"What is the voice saying right now?"

Jesus quotes Bible out loud to the Devil (stand firm); repeat as necessary
Commands out loud the Devil to get away (resist)

Possession of believers?

- Ownership – No
- Domination – debated
- Influence – Yes

Oppression

Devil's tactics: Deceive, Accuse, Tempt

Deception

David Takle: *Truth about Lies and Lies about the Truth*

Accusation

Charges with wrongdoing and inadequacy, and therefore, "you can't measure up or be effective"

Temptation

"God's way isn't the best way to your interests or to His way"

Deception Matt. 24:24 (so deceptive even the elect could fall prey); John 8:44 (Satan is liar); 2 Cor. 11:13-15 (Satan as angel of light); Gal. 1:6-9 (angels lead away from the gospel); Col. 2:4-8 (deception through crafty arguments and worldly philosophy) 2 Thess. 2:9-11 (deception through false miracles); Rev. 13:13-14 (false prophet deceives the whole earth); Rev. 19:20

Accusation: Job 1:9; 2:5 (Satan accuses Job before God); Zech. 3:1- (Accusing Joshua); 1 Pet. 2:12 (pagans accuse of wrong doing); Rev. 12:10 (Satan accuses believers before God)

Basic accusation: "Look at your suffering. If God cared, He would not let you go through this."
God's response: "Look at the Cross. That is God in the flesh. See how much He cares."

Temptation: Tempter having his impact: 1 Cor. 7:5 (through sex), 10:7-13 (God is able to protect); 2 Cor. 2:11 (Satan outwits naive folk); 2 Cor. 11:2-3 (Satan might lead believers away as he did Eve); Gal. 6:1 (others fall and lack of gentleness may result in my fall); 1 Thess. 3:5 (attacks their faith through suffering); Heb. 2:18 (Jesus comes to the aid of tempted folk); Jas. 1:13 (temptation comes but it's not from God, it appeals to my flesh); Rev. 2:10 (devil tempts through imprisonment); Rev. 12:9 (Satan leads the whole world astray)

* **Matt. 4:1-11**

The Holy Spirit leads Him (and perhaps us as Matt. 6:13 indicates; as we are on mission with Jesus, we might go there too) into the place of temptation. This duplicates Genesis 3. Just as Satan attacked Eve and Adam, Satan attacks Jesus (and he will attack us as well).

First temptation (stones to bread): What is it? Use the divine ability He has given up. In His incarnation, the Logos gave up His "God card" and lives as a perfectly Spirit-filled human. Satan suggests that He pick it up for a moment. Act on His own as opposed to obeying/trusting God. Make your life easier rather than the hard road of God. Like Eve, He is to rely on his own discernment rather than God's. Satan attacks His weakness not His sin, takes advantage of His weakness. I think this is first-class conditioning. It is "since you are Son of God" rather than "if you are Son (and I don't think you are)."

["It is written" and quotes Bible](#)

Second temptation (throw Yourself down): Do stupid things and force God to pull your cookies out of the fire. Test God's protection. See if God is good to His promise. Re-confirm God's promise because you never know if you might have been lost in the database.

["It is written" and quotes Bible](#)

Third temptation: Get the kingdom through worship of Satan; accomplish God's ends by using Satan's help. Question: Could Satan have delivered the kingdoms of the world? My suggestion is to follow Jesus' example: Jesus doesn't argue theology or experience with the demon.

["It is written" and quotes Bible](#)

["Get away from Me, Satan." ὕπαγε, σατανᾶ *hupage satana*. Same phrase shows up in Matt. 16:23](#)

What sin did Jesus do to allow the demon access to Him? Clearly, He is sinless. So demonic attack is not always because of sin. This speaks against those who say, "No sin, no demon," as well as those who say, "Attacked means there is sin in my life."

I think Jesus' method is our method, here and throughout. MacArthur disagrees, saying that the authority of Jesus and the Apostles is unique. Once we get past the apostolic era, that authority is ended. They cite passages like 2 Corinthians 12:12, "The things that mark an apostle-- signs, wonders and miracles-- were done among you with great perseverance." They would say that signs, wonders and miracles mark apostles as compared to other Christians. I think the signs, wonders and miracles are always around apostles, but this doesn't mean only apostles do them. In fact, signs, etc., are done by demonic forces too.

Summary of the method

Step one: Quote Scripture to the devil out loud – "Stand firm"

Step two: Command "Get away from me, Satan" with confidence – "Resist."

The devil leaves because he was commanded to

Step three: do "Jesus-y." stuff – "Be filled with the Spirit"

Prepare yourself spiritually before counseling

Assessing demonic influence:

Accusing voices

Tell me about the voice.

"You're a fat pig"; "You can't do anything right"; "You'd be better off dead."

Ask general questions: What does it say? When does it say it? How do you feel?

When did it start? When does it harass you? What are you afraid of?

If it is demonic, it will be personal vs. an impression.

We all have self-talk: Is that what you are hearing, or is it something else? (Let *them* answer that.) "That's not me" leads to "What do you think it might be?"

What is the voice saying right now? Do you want that voice to hang around?

Oppressive presence: "It's just not me..."

Occultic history

Look directly into their eyes and say something like: "In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and through the power of His shed blood and resurrection life, I take authority over any demonic spirit either present in or around 'Bill.' In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, I rebuke you and speak the strength of the Spirit of Jesus into 'Bill.'" If there are demons there, you will get a response.

Is it organic or spiritual?

Do not miss the point that schizophrenics hear voices. But those voices don't respond to a command in Jesus' name.

When I find a demon

Have Bill read

I want him active in the process. I want to equip him to do his own work. The commands are for the believer to stand firm in his position in Christ and to oppose, push away the demon.

His Bible

It belongs to him, it's familiar, he takes it home, he sees the marks on the page, etc. You CAN do this at home. 😊

Out loud

He is active, multi-sensory. I hear what he's saying in case of missing (skipped) words, and I know when to step in.

Ask simple interpretative questions

I want to be sure they understand what the passage is teaching; if they disagree or argue, they argue with God, not me.

Have him read Colossians 1:12-14, then ask...

What are "light," "inheritance," "saint in the kingdom of light"?

According to this passage, what do you need to do to qualify for this inheritance?

Which kingdom are you in?

What did *you* do to get there?

When do you get the inheritance? Redemption & forgiveness?

Truths from Col. 1: We are in light totally of His working

Col. 2: Seven facts lead to "let no one judge you"

Matt. 4: Speak Bible out loud to the demon; command it to get away in Jesus' name; do "Jesus-y." stuff

The process

Tell him in advance how you're going to pray, so there's agreement and no surprises.

(Amp down emotion. Rely on the authority of Christ.)

"Here's what we are going to do: I'll pray, you'll do Matt. 4 while I help, and the demon will have to go."

I pray a simple enabling prayer.

He speaks Scripture (or truth) to the demon, commands it to get away, and insists that it obey.

Sometimes...

...the person can't deal with the demon. I will do the first round in concert with him and then insist he do the next round. Preferably, I command the demon to be quiet and step back. (Never argue or converse with a demon. Just command it.)

Curse

A bad word which is pronounced by an important person and received by Bill. The solution is to identify it, reject the lie, and replace it with truth.

If I think someone has put a curse on me, it will only work in a context where there's something for the curse to connect with. I ask friends to sit with me, see what might be a weakness, sin, behavior pattern, etc., and deal with it. I also ask the Spirit to reveal what I need to know. Test the spirit. "In the name of Jesus, I reject the curse, refuse its power" etc.

House

Go to each room, confess the intended use of the room, speak rebuke to all spirits that oppose that, and command them to leave (anointing the place).

Audio Teaching on Spiritual Warfare:

I did a 10-hour teaching on Spiritual Warfare at Biblical Training. Here's the link:

<https://www.biblicaltraining.org/seminar/spiritual-warfare/gerry-breshears>

I did a 2-hour "Equipping for Spiritual Warfare." session at Grace Community Church, Gresham. The recordings are in the middle of the John 7 sermons (September 21, 2013):

<http://gracecc.net/media-archive/sermons/category/john/3>

There are more resources here: https://1drv.ms/f/s!AlATIAHb04e_gxym2PdBO4Rb_Y0b