



EXPOSING *the* ENEMY

Exposing the Roaring Lion

Focus We have an enemy, and God has given us authority over him. Every believer needs to be sober and vigilant because the devil is like a lion searching for prey. Committed Christian fellowship keeps us safe from the devil's attack.

Fun Get to know everyone in your group better by asking them how God brought them to Gateway. Go around the group and allow each person to share their story (for one minute)—not only about how they came to Gateway but also to this group.

Review Key Scriptures: Luke 10:19, Ephesians 5:9–15, 1 Peter 5:8

1. Be Sober

We have a real enemy and his name is Satan. 1 Peter 5:8 tells us that the enemy is like a lion, and he is actively looking for those whom he may devour. Every believer must be actively sober and full of self-control to resist the roaring lion. Lions are active at night, and darkness is the devil's domain. If we stay in the light of Jesus, we will be safe.

2. Be Vigilant

Be watchful and be aware of the enemy of your soul—Satan. We don't need to be afraid of him, but we do need to be aware we have a real enemy who wants to destroy us. The roaring lion is looking for prey that is isolated from the pack. Resist the enemy and submit to God daily.

3. Be Committed

Lions look for prey that is separated from the pack. We are the safest when we stay in committed and accountable Christian relationships. When two or more gather together in the name of Jesus, then Christ is in their midst. God has

given every person a promised land. We take our promised land when we resist the enemy, resister fear, and submit our lives to Jesus Christ.

Group Dynamics Idea Make prayer a priority in your small groups, and pray regularly for everyone in your group.

Discuss

1. Have you ever been in a situation where you had to be very watchful, aware, or vigilant? Describe what that experience was like for you.
2. How does believing we have an enemy of our souls affect the choices we make? Is it hard to imagine we have an enemy that hates us? How does knowing this make you feel?
3. Read 2 Timothy 1:7. Does anything in the passage surprise you? In your own words, what do you think this passage of Scripture means?
4. What does being sober and vigilant look like for you? Are there any areas in your life where you feel like the enemy has tried to come and devour you like a lion? What did you do in that situation?
5. Pastor Jimmy said that the safest place for a believer is in committed and accountable relationships. What does being in fellowship or accountable relationships feel like for you, and how does this look in your day-to-day life?
6. What is the Holy Spirit saying to you? Ask if there is anyone who needs prayer or ministry. Take time to minister to your group members. Allow for anyone who has never asked Jesus into their heart the opportunity to do so now by leading them in the sinner's prayer.

Take Home As we conclude, remember the following:

- Be Sober
- Be Vigilant

- Be Committed

Prayer Heavenly Father, please help us to be sober and vigilant every day and to fight the good fight of faith. Give us strength, wisdom, and courage to stand on Your promises and to believe Your Word that You have not given us a spirit of fear. In Jesus' name, Amen.

New Leader Tip Take time to listen to other people and celebrate or empathize with them. Actively look for ways to help group members get to know each other better.