

The Trap House – Part 2

Fall Circle Groups | Week #4

WELCOME & ICEBREAKERS

Welcome to Week #4 of Circle Groups! Those new to the group, please introduce yourself and let us know how you came to join the group.

MESSAGE SUMMARY:

This week's Trap House message was all about taking inventory of the evil spirits that come against us as believers. Whether we like it or not, we have an enemy who is after us, and he doesn't play fair. Our adversary, Satan, comes to steal, kill and destroy us. He will do anything and everything necessary to keep us from living a full life in Christ (John 10:10). But thankfully, the word of God is our sword, and is effective in helping us clean house and replace what was once evil with the good fruit of the spirit! Let's dive into God's word, take inventory of what is in our houses, and learn what tools we have been given to fight back! Let's get started.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 11:24-26

Hebrews 4:12 | Gal. 5:16-25 | Eph. 6: 10-18

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- This week's Trap House message shed light on what is REALLY going on and how things find their way back into our lives. **Have you ever dealt with an issue, only to have it re-surface in your life at a later time?**
- The enemy comes to steal, kill, and destroy, oftentimes disguising himself within our everyday relationships. Without knowing it, we begin fighting the people around us, as if they are the enemy, not realizing the enemy's attack. **Read Gal. 5: 16-25. What differences to you see between our Fleshly desires and God's Fruit? Share an example of a time you acted "in the flesh" rather than "in the spirit" within a close relationship.**

How does seeing the "evidence" of the desires of the flesh and the fruit of the spirit side by side challenge you? Do you see more fruit or flesh in your life?

- None of us are perfect, and many of us have struggled with pride in the past. This week, we learned that the enemy uses Pride to open the door to other sins in our lives. Praise God that our past does not get the final say! We have the power to expose the enemy's schemes and fight back! **Read Eph. 6:10-18. What type of weapons have we been given as believers to protect ourselves from sin overcoming our lives? How does knowing that you can fight back encourage you?**

- Each piece of the armor of Christ has a unique role and purpose. The helmet is meant to protect our minds, the breastplate protects our hearts, and the belt of truth keeps us rooted and anchored, so that we do not stumble. Sandals of peace keeps us from quickly taking offense or walking into evil, while the shield protects us from the enemy's offense. God's word, the sword helps us to TAKE GROUND offensively. All parts work together, protecting us while helping us defeat the enemy. As believers, it is important to recognize these not as optional, but as essential in everyday spiritual living. **Read Heb. 4:12. How does this verse challenge your current view of power God's word? Are you utilizing it in your life as a weapon, or is your sword sitting on the shelf getting rusty from lack of use?**

How can you practically put the sword to work this week against the fleshly desires trying to return to your life?

CONCLUSION

The enemy comes to steal, kill and destroy (John 10:10). Thankfully, we have tools to fight back. We have been given everything we need to overcome the attack of the enemy, but it is up to us to put on our armor and FIGHT BACK. We fight back each time we choose truth over deceit, peace over strife and love over hate. Taking inventory of the condition of our houses is important. As we take time to address the lingering spirits, we make room for the Holy Spirit to come in and clean us up from the inside out. And where the spirit of the Lord is, there is FREEDOM!

- **CHALLENGE:** Let's take time this week to practice using our God-Given armor of Christ and standing watch over our lives. Practice putting on each part and actively making room for the Holy Spirit by choosing to display His fruit when you want to do otherwise. Take note of what happens differently around you as a result of the change within you.

REMINDERS

- **New Ministries & Events:** Stay in the loop about upcoming classes and ministry launches going on this month by visiting the ourRelentlessChurch.com/events or downloading the Relentless Church app!
- **Circle Group Surveys:** We want to know how you've enjoyed your group so far. We'd love you to complete the Participant survey this week and share your feedback with us. [Complete the Survey Here!](#)
- **New Relentless Merchandise** is available in the lounge and online! Check out our Circle Squad gear in the lounge and in the online store at ourrelentlesschurch.store!

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House Inventory List

Take inventory of each part of your life: Professional Life, Personal Life, and Family Life and identify the areas that you see more flesh than fruit.

Galatians 5:16-18

So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever^{cl} you want. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

Fruit of the Spirit

Love
Joy
Peace
Patience
Kindness
Goodness
Faithfulness
Gentleness
Self-Control

Acts of the Flesh

Rage
Impurity
Idolatry
Strife
Hatred
Jealousy (Envy)
Selfish Ambition
Dissentions
Sexual Immorality

Declarations

Based on your inventory, declare the following over each area

Lord, I declare that I am patient and endure long. I am not quick to anger, but I am abounding in love (1 Cor. 13:4). When I resist the devil, he must flee (James 4:7). So, I resist the urge to (Insert Acts of the Flesh) and submit it under the blood of Jesus Christ. I declare that I am an overcomer and able to bring my body under subjection of the word of God (1Cor. 9:27). I am full of God's word. I meditate on it day and night so that I may be careful to do everything written in it (Ps. 1:1-3). I commit my mind, my heart and the desires of my flesh to your word. I declare that I am strong in the Lord and in the power of his might and I am covered in the armor of Christ (Eph. 6:10). I make room for the Holy Spirit in my life, therefore, my spirit is strong, and my flesh is subject to it. In Jesus' name, Amen.