



LIFE GROUP SERMON NOTES

“Plugged In: Expect Warfare”

Ps. James Lowe – 1/11/2015

And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were ended, he was hungry. The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread.” And Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone.’” And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, and said to him, “To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” And Jesus answered him, “It is written, “You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.” And he took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, “He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you,’ and “On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.” And Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’” And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.

And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and a report about him went out through all the surrounding country. And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all. And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. And he began to say to them, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”
Luke 4

WARM-UP (10-15 minutes)

Choose a question below to answer, or ask another. **No right or wrong answers.**

- *What’s the worst fight you were involved in when you were growing up?*
- *When you find yourself distracted from your task, what do you do to refocus?*
- *Have you ever been in a situation where you were rejected or marginalized because of your faith? What did you do?*

WORD (10-15 minutes)

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Jesus faced opposition from the spiritual world and the world of men. But he did not succumb to fear,

intimidation, violence, or temptation. He resisted pride, anger, and retaliation. Instead, he continued to do the will of God. He was God's faithful witness. He did not fail to walk with the Father by the Spirit, and consequently he did not fail to bear fruit. He preached, he taught, he healed, and he delivered people for their good and God's glory and honor. He impacted and influenced lives according to God's good purposes. We, as well, can expect warfare after a time of prayer and consecration, but as Jesus did, we can overcome those battles and fulfill God's purpose. In order to win the war we fight, we ought to imitate the example of Jesus and follow these steps:

1. **Keep hold of your Purpose.** *Jesus came to seek and to save those who are lost, and that's what he did. He kept on moving in the purpose he had received from the Father despite all the devils he had to fight and the opposition he had to face.*
2. **Deal with People.** *After a powerful experience with God, hearing his voice affirming him in his baptism, and being filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus went to Galilee and the people there opposed him because he was too familiar to them.*
3. **Walk in the Power of the Holy Spirit:** *Jesus overcame the temptation of the devil, and moved on in the power of the Spirit. He went down to Capernaum and encountered a man with a demonic spirit. Before, Satan claimed he didn't understand Jesus identity, but because Jesus was consistent with his purpose and dealing with people's opposition, the devil came fully acknowledging that Jesus is the Son of God! The devil changed his mind, Jesus kept his purpose and power.*

In order to be able to keep our purpose, deal with people and walk in the power of the Spirit, we will need Prayer, Preaching and Partners. Prayer will keep you in the power of the Holy Spirit. Preaching will keep you in your purpose. Spiritual partners will help you deal with opposition so you can keep your purpose in the power of the Spirit.

PERSONAL APPLICATION (10-15 minutes)

Choose an item below to discuss, or introduce another related topic for discussion.

- *Who has God called you to reach out to? Are you praying for them? How are you planning to reach out to them?*
- *Are you facing opposition in fulfilling God's purpose? How can you improve the way you deal with it?*
- *Who are the people that God has called you to walk with that will help you walk in your purpose?*

PRAYER (10-15 minutes)

Pray for any of the following, as well as any other requests you may have.

- *Pray for the people on the list you made during the consecration week.*
- *Pray for a supernatural manifestation of the power of the Spirit in your life this year.*
- *Pray for strength to keep pressing on in God's presence and power despite the attacks of the enemy.*