

# Satan, a Defeated Enemy



Collegiate Quarterly

## Teacher's Guide

### Surveying the Source

2 Thess. 2:8–12; Rev. 12:1–5, 13, 14, 17

### Plotting the Course

#### The students will:

- ▶ Know without a doubt that Satan has already been completely defeated.
- ▶ Feel the victorious power of Jesus in their lives.
- ▶ Identify the attacks of Satan in their life, and rely on the power of Jesus to encourage, strengthen, and defend them.

### Preparing to Lead

Brother Lawrence was a 17<sup>th</sup> century monk. During the set times for prayer his thoughts wandered into unholy places and he struggled to focus on God. Eventually, through a deep desire to know God better, he discovered how to experience the power and love of living safely in God's presence, almost every minute

of the day. Whenever his attention wavered, he apologized to God and refocused on His presence. This helped him to resist Satan's temptations.

Try living for a day in the awareness of God's presence. Share the results of your experiment with your class on Sabbath.

### Getting Started

**A.** Give everyone a handful of modeling dough.

Ask them to imagine that Satan is like a monster that visits their life to inflict pain and chaos and then make a model monster that represents Satan. Invite them to write down some of the negative effects that Satan has had in their life.

Then tell them to crush the monster, reshape the dough into something that represents the power of God in their life, and write how God has defeated Satan in their life.

Reflect on this creative experience together and discuss how this activity connects with the lesson study.

**B.** Divide the class into groups of three or four. Give each person one page from a national newspaper and a colored marker.

Ask them to choose one side of the news page and circle every mention of an evil character trait, behavior or action. Then ask them to draw a square around every mention of a good character trait or behavior.

After 3–5 minutes, ask the group members to share their findings with each other and discuss their observations.

Close the activity by asking groups to share together where they saw God in action, overcoming evil, during the past week.

### Materials

Reproducible Activity, Bibles, paper, pens, markers, craft materials, glue, scissors, flipchart, modelling dough, plain copy paper, sticky tack, or twine/string

## Delving Into the Word

**A.** Read the verses listed under “Surveying the Source.” On a flipchart, list every time the verses state ways in which Satan has already been defeated.

Invite each student to choose a story from the Bible, history, or their own life, when God and His goodness overcame Satan and his wickedness. Ask them to give the story a title, cite the Scripture reference if it is in the Bible, and list the key points, especially about God’s power and victory. Then have them share their stories in pairs, discussing what they found personally encouraging.

Have the students arrange their stories in historical progression, right up to today. Attach the papers to the wall using sticky tack, peg them along a length of twine/string, or lay them on the floor.

Invite class members to walk along the line of stories and read how powerfully God and has continually defeated Satan.

Reflect together on this long view of the power of God’s love and goodness towards us in the battle against evil.

**B.** In turns, read the verses listed under “Surveying the Source.”

Ask some students to share their favorite verse from this selection and why they like it. Then ask them to share the most important insight that they gained from the lesson this week.

*Say:* “These verses talk about how Jesus is already a winner in the cosmic battle with Satan. Today we’ll explore how Jesus demonstrated this in His life even before His death and resurrection.”

Divide the class into groups of four and distribute the Reproducible Activity. Allocate one of the four stories of Jesus to each of the groups. Ask the groups to study the story, discuss the questions, and choose a creative way to share their discoveries with the whole group. For example, they could draw a graphic on a sheet of flipchart paper, create a comic strip, use objects created from modelling dough, or perform a mime.

Reconvene to share each groups insights and creations.

## Discussing the Ideas

1. Have you ever seen Jesus defeating Satan in your life? What did this help you to understand about the battle between Jesus and Satan?
2. When your friends blame God for bad things that happen, how could you explain the cosmic battle between good and evil in a way they will understand?
3. How does your relationship with Jesus help you when you believe that Satan is trying to attack your life in some way?

4. What are some of the weapons or defense systems that you have found helpful when Satan tries to defeat you?

5. How does the knowledge that Satan is already defeated help you tackle some of the effects of evil in your locality?

6. How can we, as Christians, identify and challenge the insidious effects of evil that are around us every day in our society, and even in our homes?

## Closing the Activity

Invite each student to identify an area in their life where they believe that Satan is trying to attack them. Provide your students a range of craft and writing materials to write or create something that will remind them that Jesus has already defeated Satan on their behalf, something

that will encourage them to stand firm, resist Satan and join Jesus in His victory. Explain that whatever they write or make is only for their private inspiration.

Close by praying in pairs, with each person praying a short prayer for their partner’s spiritual strength.

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**Jesus—Living Power**



Read the Bible passage allocated to your group. Discuss the questions. Work on a creative way to share your story of Jesus' power over evil/death/danger with the rest of the class.

Jesus heals a paralyzed man (Luke 5:17–26)	Jesus heals a demon possessed man (Luke 8:26–39)
Jesus calms the storm (Mark 4:35–41)	Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead (Luke 11:1–44)
Describe some of the effects of evil (pain, suffering, fear, sadness, etc.) on the lives of the people in this story.	
Describe some of the effects of Jesus' love, grace, compassion, and goodness on the people in this story.	
Imagine what it was like to be the key characters in this story. What were they learning about the battle between good and evil?	
What are some of the important take-away messages from this story for Christians in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century?	
What is the most important take-away message for you in this story?	
How could your group share this story in a creative way with the rest of your class?	