

SERMON NOTES

Date: April 3, 2016

Title: Ambushed

Text: Selected Scriptures

Big Idea: The Devil will exploit every weakness you have in an attempt to devour you.

A good hunter will exploit the weakness of his prey in order to increase his chances of success. Likewise, the Devil will exploit your weakness in an attempt to successfully capture you. *"Your adversary the Devil prowls about like a roaring lion seeking those whom he may devour"* (1 Peter 5:8). You need to be aware of your enemy's tactics if you are going to spiritually stay alive.

I. Five Ways the Devil Exploits Your Weakness

1. When You're Angry (Genesis 4:5-8)

2. When You're Alone (2 Samuel 11:1-4)

3. When You're Hungry (Matthew 4:1-4)

4. When You're Tired (Matthew 26:36-41)

5. When You're Proud (Matthew 26:31-35, 69-75; 1 Corinthians 10:12-13)

MAKE IT REAL

Questions for Personal Application and Small Group Discussion

1. How does it make you feel to know that the Devil is seeking to devour you?

2. What does sinful anger give the Devil according to Ephesians 4:26-27?

Unrighteous anger is a gateway sin. It has a sinful root and produces ungodly fruit. What was at the root of Cain's anger? What sinful fruit did it produce in his life? What do you find to be the roots and fruits of your sinful anger and how do you find the devil exploiting this weakness?

3. Why does isolation present a dangerous situation for a Christian? How can you resist temptation when you find yourself alone?

4. What things in life do you hunger for besides food? How does the devil exploit those cravings in your life?

5. What temptations come into your life when you're tired? How does Jesus tell Peter to fight these temptations in Matthew 26:40-41?

6. According to 1 Peter 5:5-9 how should you fight pride and resist the Devil? How does the Devil exploit pride in your life?