

Study Series: Live No Lies

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Lesson Title: “Dezinformatsiya” (pp. 150-163)

Session 11

November 12, 2023

The main point of this lesson is: The devil is a master at disinformation and deception.

Focus on this goal: To help adults watch for and defend against the deceptive strategy of the devil

Key Bible Passage: 2 Corinthians 11:3-4,13-15; 2 Timothy 4:1-5

Before the Session

Write on a poster: Who is God? Who are we? How do we live? (Step 5)

During the Session

Step 1. Create Interest / Jumpstart Discussion

Point out that in Session 10, the group examined the unavoidable truth that the Christian life isn’t just a journey, it’s war. Ask adults to recall what they discovered about the believer’s enemies in this war (three enemies: the devil, the flesh, and the world) and the battleground where this war is fought (in our thoughts/mind). Review why it is essential to know our enemies and our battlefield.

Consider what else is vital for victory in any war. Declare we must know our enemies’ methods and strategies for waging war. Request adults recall (or read) from John 8:24 what Jesus declared is the devil’s battle strategy.

Read the main point of this lesson and focus on this goal statements (p. 161).

Step 2. A Different Warfare

Ask adults to describe how physical battles between nations have changed in their lifetime. Ask: Which of these ways of waging war is most concerning to you and why?

Briefly describe from Day One (p. 150) Russia’s strategy of disinformation to undermine the West. Remind adults that our battle is not against people, but against the devil (Eph. 6:12), and the writer’s intent is not to demonize Russia, but to illustrate the true nature of our spiritual battle as a war between truth and lies.

Discuss Day One, activities 1 (p. 150) and 2 (p. 151-152). Encourage adults to keep in mind this is a battle believers can win only with God’s power.

Step 3. Warnings

Ask: Do you agree or disagree that deception is at the root of almost every problem we face in society and our souls? Explain. Guide the group to provide examples of the kinds of lies that prey on people’s souls. State the New Testament provides numerous warnings about being deceived by lies.

Invite a volunteer to read Matthew 24:4-12. Ask: What will deceive many? What will result from that deception? Discuss Day Two, activity 1 (pp. 152-153).

Consider reasons the New Testament writers warn believers especially in the areas of sexual immorality and false teaching. Request a volunteer read the Day Two Note (p. 153). Compare how Jesus and hard-core fundamentalists engage others with this core conviction. Invite a volunteer to read the last paragraph of Day Two (p. 153).

Step 4. Easily Deceived

Discuss Day Three, activity 1 (pp. 154-155). Brainstorm ways the devil disguises himself as an angel of light. Ask: How can we be careful about whom we listen to without being cynical about everyone?

Ask adults if they agree that humans are easily deceived. Inquire: But why do people still believe lies that evidence proves is not true? Explore the writer’s remarks (p. 155) about how the devil tempts us with lies that have emotional bearing on our lives. Brainstorm other lies he might whisper to vulnerable people.

Engage a volunteer to read the last paragraph of Day Three (p. 156).

Step 5. Lying Answers, Part 1

State when Jesus called the devil the father of lies in John 8:44 He was referring to the events of Genesis 3. (OPTIONS: 1. Invite someone to read Genesis 3:1-6; 2. Summarize Genesis 3:1-6; or 3. Invite volunteers to state what they recall from Session 2 (pp. 22-32) of The God Who is There about the fall in Genesis 3.)

Explain the meanings of Adam’s and Eve’s names (p. 157). Ask: How did “human” and “life” get in the state they’re in? Discuss Day Four, activity 1 (p. 157). Display the poster with life’s three great questions. Determine lies Satan uses to answer those questions.

Step 6. Lying Answers, Part 2

Discuss Day Five, activity 1 (p. 159). Declare we must replace every lie Satan tells us about God, ourselves, and how we are to live with the truths of God’s Word. Guide the group to give biblically true answers to life’s three great questions (pp. 157-158).

Ask how secular society answers the first question, “Who is God?” Analyze how the attempt to live as if there is no God isn’t just “a disaster waiting to happen” (p. 159), but a disaster that has already happened in our world.

Ask a volunteer to read the last paragraph of Day Five (p. 160).

Discuss Day Five, activity 2 (p. 160).

Step 7. Practical Application – Live Out the Lesson

Ask: What was most sobering to you from this session? What was most encouraging to you? Invite adults to state specific take-aways they gained from this session on how they can watch for and defend against the deceptive strategy of the devil.

State one valuable defense is to be aware of our vulnerable areas where the devil is most likely to try to deceive us. Urge adults to thoughtfully and prayerfully consider Day Three, activity 2 (p. 156) sometime today, even if they have already completed the activity.

Close in prayer.

