

Spiritual Bootcamp & More Lesson 9—

CAUTION: Do not love the world or the “**THINGS**” in the world.
Don't give the enemy a foothold.

*Watch Lesson 9 video(s) on *spiritualbootcampandmore.com*.

Bootcamp moves to the middle of the pallet as we'll focus on “**THINGS**” which the enemy strategizes to gain footholds into your life. Of course there is much overlap, as ultimately every foothold category the enemy uses is to cause that top platform of “SIN” which we covered last lesson. In review, sin is simply “missing the mark” which short-circuits the power of the Holy Spirit in your life. This lesson is a very pivotal one for you. No one is exempt or far from the reach of the enemy because, as the Bible teaches us, Satan is the “ruler of this world” (2 Corinthians 4:4). He controls this *kosmos* (Strong's Concordance 2889), or world system, through lies and deception, and many a sincere follower of Christ have fallen prey because they did not understand his subtle and most crafty schemes against them. Now take a long look at the photo below and pray for the Holy Spirit to guide you into all of the truth He has for you concerning “loving the world or the things in the world.”



- 1) Our theme verses for this lesson are 1 John 2:15-17. Read them in multiple translations and then fill-in-the-blanks below.

“Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world— the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life is not from the Father, but is from the world. The world is passing away, and also its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever” (NAS).

- 2) In your own words define “lust.” _____

The Greek word for lust is *epithumia* (Strong's Concordance 1939)= *a longing for what its forbidden, inordinate desire, craving*

3) Write 1 John 2:16, Amplified Bible, Classic Edition (AMPC) "For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh [craving for sensual gratification] and the lust of the eyes [greedy longings of the mind] and the pride of life [assurance in one's own resources or in the stability of earthly things]—these do not come from the Father but are from the world [itself]."

Let's break down the three classes of "THINGS" in the world system. The enemy will tempt you with one of these three classes.

#1 "**Lust of the flesh**": the temptation to feel physical pleasure from some sinful activity— to do something to make the flesh feel satisfied

#2 "**Lust of the eyes**": the temptation to look upon something we shouldn't look upon, or to have things we should not have

#3 "**Pride of life**": the sinful temptation for excess greatness, power, or recognition

4) Take a look at Satan's temptation of Eve in Genesis 3:6 and Jesus in Matthew 4:3-11 and then write in each of the 3 classes of "THINGS" discussed above.

Genesis 3:6 "When the woman saw the tree was good for food [**lust of the** flesh], and that it was pleasing to the eye [**lust of the** eyes], and also desirable for gaining wisdom [pride **of life**], she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it."

Read Matthew 4:1-11. "The tempter came to him and said, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread [**lust of the** flesh]'. Jesus answered, 'It is written: 'Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'... 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down. For it is written: 'He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone [pride **of life**]'. Jesus answered him, 'It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.' Again the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor [**lust of the** eyes]. 'All this I will give you,' he said, 'if you will bow down and worship me.' Jesus said to him, 'Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.' 'Then the devil left him, and the angels came and attended him."

As we have previously stated, the same classes of "THINGS" Satan used on Eve and on Jesus he will use on you. There is really nothing new under the sun, but know that The Son always provides a way of escape for you (1 Corinthians 10:13). The "THINGS" might look a little different with each generation, but it always falls under one of the three categories: lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes, or the boastful pride of life. ***Isn't it interesting that Adam and Eve fell by eating and Jesus overcame by fasting.***

Time for transparency:

Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you what He wants to show you as it relates to the three classes of things in the world system. The “eye candy” in the world is ever before us. The ruler of this world and his demonic forces never weary of attempting to separate your face from “The Face” of the One and Only Jesus. The bottom line is that the enemy wants to steal, kill, and destroy *intimacy with Jesus* from you and he will go to every extreme to reach that goal. He attempts to steal your purpose thus divine destiny every single day. Even good things can become the enemy of the best. You must resolutely decide each morning whose face you will seek. Use the space below to write anything the Holy Spirit has been showing you. Capture it quickly as the enemy will attempt to steal it through distractions and procrastination. This is a wonderful time as well to share testimonies of His faithfulness in “taking away things” and “adding things.”

Let’s Get Practical:

Meditate on Matthew 6:33. “Seek first his Kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”

1) Ask Him for a potential “game changer” as it relates to your morning routine. Use the space below to write anything the Holy Spirit reveals.

2) If you never seem to have enough time for “The One” and ones who are supposed to be *the* priority in your life, ask the Holy Spirit why, and what to do about it. Then, as John 2:5 so simply states, “Whatever He says, do it.” Use the space below to write “what He says” and “how to do it.”

3) The most practical way for you to “remove things” and “add things” is to keep praying. No human opinion or effort will ever work, so prayer is the only practical thing to do. You must practice it above all else. It is more than practical. PRAYER IS POWER. PRAYER IS HIS PRESENCE. PRAYER IS PROVISION. PRAYER IS PEACE. Prayer is “all the P’s” in His Kingdom because *prayer is your relationship with Jesus*. Prayer should be like breathing—nonstop communication with your heavenly Father. Your heart must be still, and your ears open at all times.

Take another long look at the photo on the first page of this lesson. What do you see right in the middle? The CROSS... Yes! The Cross is **THE** only way out of any messy or subtle things that are trying to steal “the stilled quiet heart”— trying to steal intimacy with the One who holds the answers and has the provision for anything and everything you’ll ever need.

If your sincere desire is to love and follow Jesus, you will love His Word and people. You will have no room in your heart to love the world or things of the world. Prayer is your key to victory.

Pray the scriptures below and continue to listen for His still, small Voice. Then use the space below to write anything else that surfaces as you pray. This is a wonderful time to write a prayer of thanksgiving for what He is showing you and for the Strength you already have in Him to follow through. Praise Him for what He is doing as you seek Him with your whole heart.

Psalm 119:18 “Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law.”

Psalm 139:23-24 “Search me, and know my heart; test me and *know* my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you and lead me in the way everlasting” (NLT). (Remember that *know* means “to make it known to me.”)

Psalm 119:37 “Turn my eyes from worthless things.”

In closing, remember that your heavenly Father doesn’t want you out of this world, He wants this “world system” out of you. The world is not your friend. It is time for everyone to quit giving the enemy a foothold through “things of this world” in order to live and thrive in the Kingdom of God. “Seek first his Kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well” (Matthew 6:33).

CONGRATS ON COMPLETING Lesson 9! A “Most High Five”! See you at Bootcamp small group. Please come ready to share and pray.