

Transformed
Week 4: The Spiritual Battle for Your Character
James 1; Ephesians 6

1. How do you typically respond to trials and temptations? Do you tend to put too much or too little weight on the “devil’s schemes”?
2. What are some of the methods or strategies that the devil uses? Read 1 **Peter 5:8-9**, **Ephesians 6:11-12**, **2 Corinthians 4:4**, **John 8:43-44**, and **Ephesians 4:26-27**.
3. Read **James 1:12-15**. What is the pattern character of decline that James describes? What is the root cause? What is the alternative pattern?
4. Read **Ephesians 6:10-20**. Where does Paul say our most important battles are fought? How does he instruct us to fight? Which of the pieces of the armor are easier for you to “put on”? Which are more difficult? What does prayer look like for you?
5. As you reflect on these passages and on your own experiences, what are some of the realities of spiritual battles that you have come to either understand or overlook?
6. What is one area of spiritual weakness for you? Maybe this is a sinful pattern of lust, greed, pride, or idolatry. Maybe it’s a struggle to “train” effectively for the battles you are fighting. Maybe it’s related to a particular relationship challenge. Whatever the case, what steps have you already taken? What progress have you already made? What does it look like for you to take responsibility for your training and rely on the Holy Spirit? What is your next step? Who will encourage and pray for you?