

The Trap

Part 2: Satan's Role in Offense

Various passages

Launch

What causes you to get angry? What's the angriest you've ever been?

Explore

Read Matthew 16:21-23

Why did Peter confront Jesus? What was his motivation?

What does Jesus' response to Peter tell us about His purpose? His priorities? His level of discernment?

Read Ephesians 4:26-27

How can we avoid sin in the midst of anger? How could our response to anger give Satan a foothold?

Apply

Some people underestimate the spiritual component of our life struggles (they blame the world and the flesh but ignore the devil) while some overestimate them (they see a "demon behind every tree"). Where do you fall on that spectrum? Why?

How can you discern whether or not Satan is at work in the midst of feeling offended? (e.g. disrespected, insulted, violated, betrayed, etc.)

How can focusing on God's purpose for our life help us get through painful situations? Give an example of how you've seen this happen in your own life.

Pray

Pray for discernment, recognizing Satan's role in offense. Pray that we'd rely on the Spirit's power and grace to help us through.