

A black and white photograph of a group of six men sitting on a large, dark leather sofa in a modern living room. The room has a brick wall and a wooden floor. The men are engaged in conversation, with some looking at each other and others looking towards the camera. A coffee table is in front of them. The word "DEFINED" is overlaid in large, light blue letters across the center of the image.

DEFINED

A BetterMan Courageously
Follows God's Word

PART 1



BETTERMAN



SESSION 4

Becoming Courageous in the Fight



BETTERMAN

1

When We Leave the Quiet, We Enter the Arena

1

When We Leave the Quiet, We Enter the Arena

- A. In the arena, our world, we have an intimidating enemy who is set against us.
- B. People today often scoff at the idea of a personal devil.

1

When We Leave the Quiet, We Enter the Arena

- A. In the arena, our world, we have an intimidating enemy who is set against us.
- B. People today often scoff at the idea of a personal devil.
 - Just know this: the devil doesn't need you to **believe** in him. In fact, if you **dismiss** him, all the better for him in tempting, confusing, and misleading your life.

1

When We Leave the Quiet, We Enter the Arena

- A. In the arena, our world, we have an intimidating enemy who is set against us.
- B. People today often scoff at the idea of a personal devil.
 - Just know this: the devil doesn't need you to believe in him. In fact, if you dismiss him, all the better for him in tempting, confusing, and misleading your life.
- C. When we step out into the arena of everyday life, we must be alert and ready to do battle with this sinister opponent.

2 Satan's Strategy of Engagement

2

Satan's Strategy of Engagement

A. The devil's chief strategy is one of deception.

2

Satan's Strategy of Engagement

A. The devil's chief strategy is one of deception.

- Below are some of the lies Satan uses against us:

2

Satan's Strategy of Engagement

A. The devil's chief strategy is one of deception.

- Below are some of the lies Satan uses against us:

B. "I can satisfy you."

- Only Jesus can offer the satisfaction we really want.

2

Satan's Strategy of Engagement

A. The devil's chief strategy is one of deception.

- Below are some of the lies Satan uses against us:

B. "I can satisfy you."

- Only Jesus can offer the satisfaction we really want.

C. "There won't be any consequences."

- Temptation only mentions the benefits of an action while ignoring the consequences. It promises pleasure, but it pays with pain. It leads to a "less than" life. And often, we hurt someone we love.

2

Satan's Strategy of Engagement *Continued...*

D. "You can be free."

- Temptation will promise freedom but it's actually a **trap**. We end up **enslaved**.

2

Satan's Strategy of Engagement *Continued...*

D. "You can be free."

- Temptation will promise freedom but it's actually a **trap**. We end up **enslaved**.

E. "God would want you to have this."

F. "God is holding out on you."

- We often say "yes" to temptation because we fear we are going to miss out. But the real miss of life is when we fail to **trust** God for our needs.

3 The Pull of Temptation to Sin

3

The Pull of Temptation to Sin

A. Temptation typically starts with a thought.

3

The Pull of Temptation to Sin

- A. Temptation typically starts with a thought.
- B. The next phase happens in your **imagination**.

3

The Pull of Temptation to Sin

- A. Temptation typically starts with a thought.
- B. The next phase happens in your imagination.
- C. Next comes justification.

3

The Pull of Temptation to Sin

- A. Temptation typically starts with a thought.
- B. The next phase happens in your imagination.
- C. Next comes justification.
- D. Finally, we make the choice to sin.



How to Fight with Sin and Win

4

How to Fight with Sin and Win

A. The first step is to identify our signature sin(s).

4

How to Fight with Sin and Win

- A. The first step is to identify our signature sin(s).
- We can't defeat an enemy we can't or won't name.

4

How to Fight with Sin and Win

A. The first step is to identify our signature sin(s).

- We can't defeat an enemy we can't or won't name.
- We need to call out our **weaknesses** “in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.”

2 Corinthians 2:11 (NIV)

4

How to Fight with Sin and Win

A. The first step is to identify our signature sin(s).

- We can't defeat an enemy we can't or won't name.
- We need to call out our weaknesses "in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes."

2 Corinthians 2:11 (NIV)

B. The second step is to create a winning **strategy** for dealing with our sin(s).

4

How to Fight with Sin and Win

A. The first step is to identify our signature sin(s).

- We can't defeat an enemy we can't or won't name.
- We need to call out our weaknesses "in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes."

2 Corinthians 2:11 (NIV)

B. The second step is to create a winning strategy for dealing with our sin(s).

- Sometimes our best response for overcoming a temptation is to flee from it.

4

How to Fight with Sin and Win *Continued...*

- Sometimes our best move is to run from temptation ... literally!

4

How to Fight with Sin and Win *Continued...*

- Sometimes our best move is to run from temptation ... literally!
- Sometimes we can't flee, so we have to face the temptation head on and fight it.

4

How to Fight with Sin and Win *Continued...*

- Sometimes our best move is to run from temptation ... literally!
- Sometimes we can't flee, so we have to face the temptation head on and fight it.

C. The third step is to enlist the help and encouragement of other men.

4

How to Fight with Sin and Win *Continued...*

- Sometimes our best move is to run from temptation ... literally!
- Sometimes we can't flee, so we have to face the temptation head on and fight it.

C. The third step is to enlist the help and encouragement of other men.

- Every man needs a “Band of Brothers” in his life to provide support and accountability.



B

BETTERMAN