

# DON'T GIVE THE ENEMY A SEAT AT YOUR TABLE

Four sermon outlines to lead churches on a journey to reset their minds

Based on Louie Giglio's book *Don't Give the Enemy a Seat at Your Table: It's Time to Win the Battle of Your Mind*, these four sermon outlines will guide you to help your congregation reset their minds and create a battle plan for their lives..

# THE ENEMY BEFORE US

## SERMON ONE | PSALM 23

**Note:** It is recommended that you read chapter 1 in *Don't Give the Enemy a Seat at Your Table* before the sermon so you will be acquainted with the story behind the text received by Louie Giglio.

### I. Introduction

A. Technology impacts our lives in ways we don't even realize. A text with nine words changed Louie Giglio's life. When he read the text, it stopped him in his tracks and completely changed his focus.

B. A text from a friend helped Giglio realize two things:

1. We have allowed the enemy access to our conversations, attitudes, emotions, the way we respond to people, and the way we view situations.
2. We have allowed the enemy to enter our story. We are, in essence, having a conversation with a killer at our table.

C. In this sermon series, Louie Giglio will help us learn the power of the nine words in that text, "Don't give the enemy a seat at your table." It's not too late to clear the table and set it for two: The Lord and you!

### II. Teaching

A. Psalm 23 is a Psalm of David:

1. David was a king.
2. He was a warrior.
3. David was a shepherd.
4. He had been in difficult situations and seen God deliver.

B. David opens with this line, "The Lord is my Shepherd."

1. We all have some sort of shepherd in our lives.
2. We were made by God for God. We were made to be led.
3. If the Lord is not leading, somebody else is leading our lives.

C. David continues, "I lack nothing."

1. He isn't saying he got everything he wanted.
2. He never lacked what he needed any day of his life.

D. Psalm 23:1-4 shows us what it looks like when the Lord is my shepherd.

1. "He makes me lie down in green pastures, He leads me beside quiet waters, he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff they comfort me."

a. Giglio tells us when life gets busy and stressful and you are at risk of cracking and crumbling, the Lord makes you do the one thing that will ensure you don't fall apart. You need rest. You need a break. You need the good stuff. And sometimes he'll use a circumstance we don't like to get us into a pasture that we really need.

b. With the Lord as our shepherd, we have direction and guidance.

c. When we allow him to lead us, we will not fear. We will find peace and comfort.

2. "You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies."  
Psalm 23:5

a. The table God has prepared for you will not sequester you or extract you from a broken world.

b. In fact, that table will be situated in the middle of your enemies. You don't have to worry, though, you will feel and know his presence because he will be seated at the table with you.

### III. Application

A. Louie helps us imagine what sitting at a table with the Lord might be like. Imagine this, he sits at the table with you and says, "How are you? Are you thirsty? So good to see you. I'm really, really glad you came. I got everything I could out of the kitchen. How's life? How are you?" Think about the invitation David is calling us to. God is inviting us to a table—with the king. Yes, it is in the presence of strife, it is in the midst of the enemy, and it is right in the middle of the battle.

B. Whatever the circumstances, whether it's persecution or difficulty or a cancer ward or a diagnosis or family strife, God says, "I'm going to prepare a table for you right in the middle of whatever it is." And here's the beautiful thing about it, it's a table for two.

C. Remember this: The God of the universe wants to be your shepherd. He wants to lead you and guide you and restore you. He wants to be with you and protect you and provide for you and anoint you and overflow in you.

D. The Lord is good, that's where we're starting this journey. We're starting it with a good God, with a gracious God, with a God of abundance. And here's the main takeaway: We know at the end of it all that it's not what's on the table, but who's at the table. We know that he is always going to be everything that we need.

E. Accept his invitation, join him at the table for two, and don't give the enemy a seat at your table!

# THE BATTLE FOR OUR MIND

SERMON TWO | 2 CORINTHIANS 10

**Note:** It is recommended that you read chapters 3-4 in *Don't Give the Enemy a Seat at Your Table* before the sermon so you will be acquainted with the stories and principles from Louie Giglio.

## I. Introduction

A. Louie Giglio points out to us that God's word said, "As a man or woman thinks in their heart, so are they." In other words, what happens in the battlefield of our minds ends up translating itself in and through our lives, our actions, our decisions, and writes the story of our lives.

B. You have the power to change your mind. You may not have the power to change your circumstances. You may not have any control over the situation, but you can pray about it.

C. God wants us to wake up to the reality that by the power of Almighty God and through the transforming work of his word, we can change our minds. If you change your mind according to God's word you change you. If you change your thoughts, you change your actions, then your change your path, and that's when you change your life.

D. Louie reminds us it's all about you taking control through God's power to win the battle for your mind.

## II. Teaching

A. When a thought enters your mind, you have to identify that thought.

1. Go back to the Garden of Eden. God provided abundantly for Adam and Eve. He only had one rule, one tree was forbidden—the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. When the enemy

approached her, Eve needed to examine the thought the snake planted in her mind, but instead she gave the enemy a seat at her table.

2. How should Eve or you or I examine a thought? Simple, ask two questions. Where did it come from? Is it congruent with God's word?

B. Once you've identified the thought, you have to speak to that thought in Jesus' name.

1. Paul tells us in 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 "For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does, the weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds."

a. Whatever the enemy is saying, remember that's not coming from God and it's not congruent with God's word.

b. Use the name of Jesus: "I bind that thought in Jesus' name."

c. Either you bind the thought or the thought will bind you.

d. You can demolish strongholds that are contrary to God's word and you can bind those thoughts in the name of Jesus.

2. God's word says you can win the battle for your mind.

a. For some of us to win the battle for our mind, we're going to have to get completely reorganized.

b. Be persistent and consistent as you identify thoughts and then capture them in the name of Jesus and one day you will realize you are walking in a different way of life through the power of Jesus.

C. If you and I are going to win the battle for our minds, we need to claim the truth.

1. Jesus taught us to do this. When confronted by the enemy Jesus responded with the word of God. Jesus answered by saying, "Here's what God says." Enemy defeated!

2. You've got to know the truth and you've got to come with the truth. God's word stands forever. So, when your opinion becomes God's word you've got something to fight with.

### III. Application

A. Once you know what the alternative truth is, you have to walk in that truth daily.

1. Every day spotlight any thought that enters your mind, examine it, and speak to it in Jesus' name.
2. If it's not of the Lord, come up with the opposite of it, the truth of God's word.

B. Louie points out that we've all seen the scripture memory cards. We know people who carry them around and pull them out in necessary situations. But we're not talking about having the scripture memory card, we're talking about living the scripture memory card. It's about acting and walking on truth, the truth in God's word.

C. There's going to be some fighting involved in the battle for your mind. But it's not a mystery either. It's just walking. When thoughts come, you're going to identify them, bind them, and use the power of the name of Jesus. You're going to learn the word of God that will set you on a new course. No matter what your past has been, take your seat at the table God has prepared for you. That's how you can win the battle for your mind.

# THE PATH TO VICTORY

## SERMON THREE | 1 CORINTHIANS 15

**Note:** It is recommended that you read chapter 6 in *Don't Give the Enemy a Seat at Your Table* before the sermon so you will be acquainted with the stories and principles from Louie Giglio.

### I. Introduction

A. You and I can control the thoughts that land in our mind. God wants us to get our hearts and our heads around that idea. His word tells us: “as a man or woman thinks in his or her heart, so are they.” So, we know that living begins with thinking right. Right thinking leads ultimately to right living. You can’t harbor a thought that’s against God’s will in your mind, give it shelter and sustenance, and then expect a different outcome ultimately in your life.

B. The outcome God has planned for you and me is victory. But the enemy is a different story. He’s got a different narrative. His plan for you is defeat, utter and complete failure, and in the end death.

C. Giglio reminds us the thief comes to steal, kill, and destroy. He’s going to try to tell you that you’re never going to measure up to whatever it is that God has put in your life—your spouse, your children, your friends, your job—you’re never going to be good enough. You can’t. You won’t. You’ve been defeated. But God is saying timeout. There’s an empty tomb. It’s the hallmark of our story and it tells us God is calling us to live in victory.

### II. Teaching

A. The apostle Paul talks about ultimate victory in 1 Corinthians 15.

1. He’s talking about victory over death and the grave. He’s talking about what happens to us when we die.



2. In verse 57 he writes, "But thanks be to God." He said thanks be to God because he gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

3. We're not starting from zero, we're starting from Jesus. And we are coming alive as he brings us to faith. He moves us from death to life spiritually, puts his spirit inside of us, the very life of Christ now becomes our life. Whatever you're facing, it's not just you against the world. If you're in Christ, you are starting at a point of victory.

B. Jesus came to this earth. He took our sin, went down into the depths, fought our fights. He was up against the darkness. He was tempted in every way, like we're tempted yet without sin. He took the blows. He took the curse. He broke the chains. He banished the shame. He destroyed guilt.

1. Jesus came to make a way for you and me to live life.

2. He came out of the tomb so that he could lead us out of the tomb.

3. Jesus moved into enemy territory and defeated the lies by exposing the enemy.

4. He invites us to join him in the victory.

5. Winning the battle for our mind begins with uniting with Jesus. We identify with him and his suffering and we identify with him and his life.

### III. Application

A. Our story of victory begins when we accept the reality that God has a purpose and a plan for each one of us. We choose to live out his purpose and plan. We accept God has a vision for our lives and we decide to walk in that vision. We realize God wants to change our story and we let him. We choose to join him at the table for two in the presence of our enemies.

B. Giglio suggests statements for each day of the week to help us turn the story around in our minds.

1. Monday: "My God knows my name." Isaiah 43
2. Tuesday: "My God goes before me." Isaiah 42
3. Wednesday: "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13
4. Thursday: "My present sufferings pale in comparison to the future glory that God has stored up for me in my life." Romans 8:18
5. Friday: "No weapon formed against me will prosper." Isaiah 54
6. Saturday: "I am a child of God." Romans 8
7. Sunday: "The same power that raised Jesus Christ from the dead lives in me." Ephesians 1:18

# IN THE PRESENCE OF OUR ENEMIES

## SERMON FOUR | PSALM 34

**Note:** It is recommended that you read chapter 9 in *Don't Give the Enemy a Seat at Your Table* before the sermon so you will be acquainted with the stories and principles from Louie Giglio.

### I. Introduction

A. In Psalm 23, scripture tells us that God has prepared a table. Louie Giglio has helped us look at the table God has set for us. We've learned it's not a table in his presence. It's a table in the presence of the difficulty, the trial, the challenge, the enemy.

B. The Psalmist, David—the same warrior, the same king, the same shepherd, the same leader, the same one who took down Goliath, the same one God used to extend the invitation to the table—is speaking to us again in Psalm 34.

C. Louie helps us understand the purpose of the table and why the table is placed in the presence of the enemy. Remember, God does everything for a reason.

### II. Teaching

A. "I will extol the Lord at all times; his praise will always be on my lips."  
Psalm 34:1

1. The table is a place where we can praise the Lord continuously and without restraint.

2. Praise is what happens when the Lord is my shepherd. Praising him in the good days and praising him in the hard days. Praising him when we see a way through the wilderness and praising him when we don't see the way through the wilderness. His praise is always on our lips.

B. "My soul will boast in the Lord, so let the afflicted hear and rejoice."  
Psalm 34:2

1. When we get to know God, we realize that no matter the current circumstance or situation, he is all we need. We should be ready to tell his story and share his love continually.

2. This is about life and about a relationship. When in a relationship, you can't help but talk about that person. David confirms that when he says, "My soul is boasting now in the Lord." Notice the next line. "So let the afflicted hear and rejoice."

3. God is saying "I put the table close enough to the fray that the people in the fray can hear what's going on at the table." He wants your time at the table to show others his abundance, his love, his purpose, and his plan. He wants someone who needs to know Jesus to be able to lean over and listen to what's going on.

C. "Glorify the Lord with me. Let us exalt his name together." Psalm 34:3

1. God wants those around the table to see your praise in action, your joy and love displayed, your gratitude for all that the Lord has done.

2. He wants them in close proximity when the invitation is extended to them. Your time at the table can lead to a salvation experience for others.

D. "Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him." Psalm 34:8

1. God placed the table in the presence of the enemy so that you and I could take refuge in his presence.

2. He wants us to realize that he is enough. He is our protector and our defender. At his table and in his presence is the safest place we can be—even if it is surrounded by the enemy!

### III. Application

A. God has prepared your table so you can do what Jesus said: Love your enemies, bless those who curse you, speak well of the people who are not speaking well of you. This can only happen if you are locked on to the king at the table. Then you can not only know that he is enough, but you can show that he is enough.

B. You can actually share that he is enough with the people around you. You have a story to tell. You know the sacrifice Jesus made. You know the amazing love he has for us. You have experienced his grace. Now share that story with those around the table God has set before you.

C. The ultimate goal for your time at the table is for those around you to stop looking at you. They're going to start trying to figure out who it is that you're looking at. And they're going to migrate toward the one seated at your table. Don't fear those around your table because he is there to protect you. As the lost ones around your table watch you and your relationship with Jesus, they will be drawn to him.

D. Don't give the enemy a seat at your table, but do not miss out on the invitation to linger with the king, it will change your life. It will bring you good, and it will bring him glory.