Welcome to Heart-to-Heart!
Beware of Friendly Fire!
Know Who the Enemy Is

Week 1 | 10.01.12 (PM) | 10.03.12 (AM)
“I tell you the truth, the man who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. 2 The man who enters by the gate is the shepherd of his sheep. 3 The watchman opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. 4 When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. 5 But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger’s voice.”

John 10:1-5 (NIV 1984)
Jesus used this figure of speech, but they did not understand what he was telling them. Therefore Jesus said again, “I tell you the truth, I am the gate for the sheep. All who ever came before me were thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

John 10:6-10 (NIV 1984)
Adam and Eve lived happily together in their beautiful new home. And everything was perfect — for a while.

Until the day when everything went wrong.

God had a horrible enemy. His name was Satan. Satan had once been the most beautiful angel, but he didn't want to be just an angel — he wanted to be God. He grew proud and evil and full of hate, and God had to send him out of heaven. Satan was seething with anger and looking for a way to hurt God. He wanted to stop God's plan, stop this love story, right there. So he disguised himself as a snake and waited in the garden.

Now, God had given Adam and Eve only one rule:
"Don't eat the fruit on that tree," God told them. "Because if you do, you'll think you know everything. You'll stop trusting me. And then death and sadness and tears will come."
(You see, God knew if they ate the fruit, they would think they didn’t need him. And they would try to make themselves happy without him. But God knew there was no such thing as happiness without him, and life without him wouldn’t be life at all.)

As soon as the snake saw his chance, he slithered silently up to Eve. “Does God really love you?” the serpent whispered. “If he does, why won’t he let you eat the nice, juicy, delicious fruit? Poor you, perhaps God doesn’t want you to be happy.”

The snake’s words hissed into her ears and sunk down deep into her heart, like poison. Does God love me? Eve wondered. Suddenly she didn’t know anymore.

“Just trust me,” the serpent whispered. “You don’t need God. One small taste, that’s all, and you’ll be happier than you could ever dream...”

Eve picked the fruit and ate some. And Adam ate some, too.

And a terrible lie came into the world. It would never leave. It would live on in every human heart, whispering to every one of God’s children: “God doesn’t love me.”
Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes.

Ephesians 6:10,11 (NIV 1984)
Conflict is part of life but turmoil and strife are spirits of the devil.
“The devil sets you up to upset you!”
- Joyce Meyer
Conflict - to come into collision or disagreement; to fight or contend

Turmoil - a state of great commotion, confusion, or disturbance

Strife - discord and antagonism
“Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith …”

1 Peter 5:8-9a (NIV 1984)
sober minded = well-balanced

alert = to be on guard, watchful, attentive continually

devour = suck out strength a little bit at a time
devil is a compound word in GREEK; dia-balos

“Diabolos means to repetitiously throw something striking it again and again and again and again until the object being struck has finally been completely penetrated.”

– Rick Renner, author of Dressed to Kill
Christ has “disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.” (Colossians 2:15)
“... in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.”

2 Corinthians 2:11 (NIV 1984)
Balanced, biblical thinking in regard to spiritual warfare goes:

1. There is a war.
2. Jesus won the victory at the cross. (1 John 3:8)
3. I have all I need to win the daily battles.
4. There is no cause for fear!
The core or essence of God’s nature is LOVE.
God knows that it’s in our nature is to easily give into our

• feelings
• fears
• fleshly desires
The devil uses our feelings, our fears and our fleshly desires to get us to doubt God’s truth and character.
“1 What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don’t they come from your desires that battle within you? 2 You want something but don’t get it. You kill and covet, but you cannot have what you want. You quarrel and fight. You do not have, because you do not ask God. 3 When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.

James 4:1-2 (NIV 1984)
4 You adulterous people, don’t you know that friendship with the world is hatred toward God? Anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God. 
5 Or do you think Scripture says without reason that the spirit he caused to live in us envies intensely? 6 But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: ‘God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.’

James 4:4-6 (NIV 1984)
Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.”
Greek word pheugo (fyoo’-go) means to flee
literally - to flee away, seek safety by flight
figuratively - to shun or avoid

double-minded - uncertain, doubting
CORE LIES WORKSHEET
The devil appeals to our reasoning because he deceives us through false reasoning and wrong conclusions!
The devil will do anything to distract us from truth.
• The truth of spiritual warfare
• The truth of our reality
• Our true identity
• Of God’s promises and character
When we are distracted from the truth; we harm ourselves!
Get quiet to listen and write:
1. What you hear God say to you.
2. A lie the devil has penetrated into your mind.
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Until the day when everything went wrong.

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