

## “IF” IS A WORD

1. **God uses to** \_\_\_\_\_ (2 CH. 7:14; MT. 7:11)

→ When God comes to you with an *if*, \_\_\_\_\_

2. **The enemy uses to** \_\_\_\_\_ (GEN. 3:1)

→ When the enemy comes to you with an *if*, \_\_\_\_\_

*“If we don’t address temptation directly, firmly, and with Christ-honoring resolve – we will succumb to the evil one’s false promises again and again. When the devil goes unanswered, avoided, or dismissed, he comes back around again with the same question.” – DAN WILT*

## THE ENEMY’S GOAL IS TO GET US TO \_\_\_\_\_

*“If you are now associated with Christ, the Enemy hates you He cannot succeed in any kind of direct assault against the Almighty, but he can grieve God’s heart by convincing God’s children to distrust and disobey him, the One who gave his all for them.” – BEN STUART*

## WE’RE IN A BATTLE

*“The question is not whether we are in a spiritual battle. Open war is upon us, friends. The only question remaining is whether we will choose to struggle well.” – STUART*

1. **The enemy knows our** \_\_\_\_\_ = how we engage with the world around us: thoughts, feelings, actions

*“The devil understands this basic concept: What you think about, you will care about. What you care about, you will chase.” – STUART*

2. **The enemy knows our** \_\_\_\_\_ = our personal inclinations toward certain ideas and behaviors

*“We don’t choose our propensities, but we do choose our activities.” – STUART*

## WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

*“If you know the enemy and know yourself, you need not fear the result of a hundred battles... If you know neither the enemy nor yourself, you will succumb in every battle.” – SUN TZU, THE ART OF WAR*

1. **Understand the enemy’s** \_\_\_\_\_

He wants us to be actively and willfully engaged in activities that...

- Dishonor our Lord
- Distance us relationally from God and His people
- Diminish our power to pursue our created purpose
- Direct us toward self-destruction

2. **Reduce your exposure to the** \_\_\_\_\_ **and the** \_\_\_\_\_ **of temptation**

*“Keep watch and pray, so that you will not give in to temptation. For the spirit is willing, but the body is weak!” – MT. 26:41*

- Analyze the moment – your context will shape your character
- Make no provision for sin
- Become mindful of where you move, when you move, and who you move with

3. **Look** \_\_\_\_\_ **and consider the** \_\_\_\_\_

*“For the lips of an immoral woman are as sweet as honey, and her mouth is smoother than oil. But in the end she is as bitter as poison, as dangerous as a double-edged sword.” – PROV. 5:3-4*

4. **Know your temptation** \_\_\_\_\_

*“Temptation comes from our own desires, which entice us and drag us away. These desires give birth to sinful actions. And when sin is allowed to grow, it gives birth to death.” – JAS. 1:14-15*