

Subtle Schemes

By RLD Editorial Team

for use as
STEP 1 

Lesson 10**Focus:**

Satan's schemes
are subtle.

Lesson 10**Bible Basis:**

1 John 3:8;
Ephesians 2:2; 2
Corinthians 4:4;
11:14; 1 Peter 5:8;
Ephesians 6:11-12

Lesson 10**Memory Verse:**

Jesus said to him, "Away from me,
Satan! For it is written:
'Worship the Lord your God,
and serve him only.'"
—Matthew 4:10

Students will watch and discuss a nature video of a predator's attack on a victim as they explore the subtle schemes of our enemy.

Materials:

- Internet access

Before sharing the following video, tell your students that you will be watching different African animal predators and prey. Encourage your teens to watch if they can, but warn those who admit to being afraid that this video may be a little intense for them.

Video: [Stop after 2:32]:

Title: Top 10 Preys Who Can Defend Themselves from Predators-When Prey Fights Back-Prey VS Predator

Source: YouTube.com

URL: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DkX5iv90AjE>

Short Description: Warthog and zebras fight off animal predators.

- **What part of the video did you find most intense?** (Answers will vary.)
- **Were you surprised when the warthogs and zebras got away? Do you think it was just good luck that allowed the prey to escape—or did they have a plan?** (In most cases, the prey would have been overcome by so many predators. But when challenged the prey have qualities that help fight the predator.)
- **What did the adult warthog do that helped the young one escape?** (Your students might talk about the adrenaline rush that allows the adult to face the predator.)
- **What is it about predators that make them so frightening?** (Allow students to think through the unexpectedness of attacks; being out of control of a situation, etc.)

The Bible warns us about a deadly predator who is out to destroy us. Let's study some of Satan's tricks so we can resist his deadly force.

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher's guide; your Step 4 appears below.)

Subtle Schemes

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STEP 4 

Lesson 10**Focus:**

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Corinthians 4:4;
11:14; 1 Peter 5:8;
Ephesians 6:11-12

Lesson 10**Memory Verse:**

Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'"
—Matthew 4:10

Materials:

- Paper
- Pencils/pens
- Optional: Internet access

Before the lesson, ask students to have paper and wither a pen or a pencil available.

Your students might acknowledge Satan's dangerous schemes but often define his power as an abstraction rather than a personal danger. Step 4 will help your class pinpoint the most vulnerable areas of their lives.

If you have time, show students the following science article that maps out especially dangerous locations for predatory attacks on humans in the United States. Be sure to point out the areas that show where predator attacks will happen.

Title: Here's where you're most likely to run into wildlife that could kill you

Source: BusinessInsider.com

URL: <http://www.businessinsider.com/a-us-map-of-wildlife-that-could-kill-you-2016-6>

Short Description: An article about the most common locations of dangerous predators

We don't often think of humans having predators. But we all have areas where Satan likes to prowl in our lives. Explain that they will be creating a symbolic geographical map of their own "habitat" to help them identify their areas of weakness.

We will be transforming a piece of paper into a scientific map of your personal habitat. On this map, you will want to locate the areas where you should be on high alert. For example, you might want to draw your neighborhood, home, school, bedroom, and so forth, marking DANGER areas where Satan might be able to gain the upper hand. There's no wrong way to complete this map, so let's just sketch out some possible locations that require extra protection.

Once students have time to draw some ideas, come together and discuss the following questions as a class:

- **Why is it important to fortify weak areas ahead of time?** (Satan doesn't announce his arrival or advertise his strategies. It is important to be ready before we get mired in difficult temptation.)
- **Screen time is a dangerous time for Satan to launch an offensive attack. What can we all do to build up our defenses?** (Submitting to accountability with parents and mentors, creating healthy boundaries of Internet use, and limiting our free-for-all browsing on our smart phones can prevent "accidental" exposure to pornography or the pressure to conform to social media. If this is a particularly difficult area, they might consider a filtered browser.)
- **Besides the media, social media sites, and Internet, are there any other vulnerable locations on your map you'd be willing to share?** (Answers will vary. Leaders can also be prepared to share.)

Encourage your students to post their map somewhere to remind them of potential danger. When you are finished, close in prayer, asking Jesus for extra protection against Satan's dangerous schemes.

One way to protect against predators is to be on guard. Text your teens during the week, encouraging them to be on guard for Satan's schemes in their lives. Ephesians 6:11-2 and 1 Peter 5:8 may be good reminders.

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