

Principalities & Powers (6 of 8)

Small Group Discussion Questions

Join our congregation for worship in-person or online at 10:30 am each Sunday via our [Grantham Church YouTube Channel](#). If you ever miss a message, the sermons are always posted to the recent sermons page at our website and at the Grantham Church Podcast the following day, along with the sermon slides and small group discussion questions under Worship Resources. Thank you for staying connected with us!

Sunday, June 7th, 2026



Series Focus: The Apostle Paul wrote, *"For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms"* (Ephesians 6:12). The Bible tells a story of a real cosmic conflict—where spiritual rebellion has corrupted the world—but through Jesus, God is reclaiming the nations, and he invites his people to participate in this spiritual fight through prayer. *Principalities & Powers* is an 8-week sermon series exploring the unseen spiritual conflict behind human history, the victory of Christ over evil, and the role of believers in spiritual warfare through prayer. Join us each week (May 3-June 21) as we learn about our real enemy and how to fight like Jesus.

Sermon Title: Disarming the Powers

Scripture Reading: Matt. 4:1-11, 16:13-20; Mark 5:1-20; Col. 2:13-15; 1 John 3:8

Sermon Focus: Jesus did not come merely to forgive sins—he came to confront, disarm, and defeat the powers of darkness. He came to reverse the three cosmic rebellions! In the sixth message of our series, Pastor David explores how Jesus affirmed the cosmic spiritual warfare worldview through his temptations, exorcisms, teachings, transfiguration, death, and resurrection, and he explains how Jesus disarmed the powers and established his authority over everything in heaven and on earth.

Thank you for going deeper in conversation with your small group. Use the following questions to help *guide* your small group discussion:

1. Read Matthew 4:1-11. Notice how Satan (the serpent) comes to Jesus as he did Eve in Genesis 3. What stands out to you about Satan's temptations and his offers to Jesus? How does Jesus' temptations reveal his true mission?
2. 1 John 3:8b says: "The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work." In Luke 10:18, Jesus said, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven." And in Romans 16:20, Paul says, "The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet." These verses point us back to the first cosmic rebellion that introduced sin and death into the world. Jesus is reversing the work of our true enemy! Have you ever noticed how central Jesus' defeat of Satan is to the gospel message? What are your thoughts as you reflect on the devil as the main antagonist?
3. Read Mark 5:1-20. What does the story of Legion teach us about Jesus' authority over evil and the demonic realm? Notice how quick they recognize Jesus' identity and authority? How does this story strengthen your confidence in Christ?
4. Pastor David explained how Jesus' ministry near Caesarea Philippi (Matt. 16:13-20) and the Transfiguration (Matt. 17:1-8) at Mt. Hermon can be understood as a direct challenge to the powers of darkness. Jesus is provoking the powers to bring about his death. Have you ever seen it this way before? Why is this view so significant?
5. In Colossians 2:13-15, Paul says that Jesus "disarmed the rulers and authorities" through the cross. What does that mean? How is the cross both a personal and cosmic victory? Also, what fear, burden, or struggle becomes easier to face when you remember that Christ has already won the ultimate victory?
6. Despite the evil and injustice we still see in the world, reflect on how Christ disarmed the powers and will soon defeat them. How would your attitude, words, and actions change if you truly believed that Christ has already won the war?
7. **WEEKLY PRACTICE: Celebrating Victory – "Live Like the War is Won!"**
 - **Challenge:** To remember that Jesus has disarmed the powers, ensured their defeat, and secured God's good future.
 - **Invitation:** Declare: "Jesus, you have already disarmed the principalities and powers. I choose to live like the war is won."
 - **Goal:** Don't let the darkness fool you—Think, talk, and act like the gates of hell will not prevail against Christ and his Kingdom!

What is God saying to you through this message and weekly practice?