



## Key References:

John 10:10 (ESV)

<sup>10</sup> **The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.**

2 Corinthians 10:3–5 (ESV)

<sup>3</sup>For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. <sup>4</sup>For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. <sup>5</sup>We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ,

Psalms 51:14–17 (ESV)

<sup>14</sup> Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness. <sup>15</sup> O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. <sup>16</sup> For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it; you will not be pleased with a burnt offering. <sup>17</sup> The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Psalms 103:10–14 (ESV)

<sup>10</sup> He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. <sup>11</sup> For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; <sup>12</sup> as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. <sup>13</sup> As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him. <sup>14</sup> For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.

### 1 – Two voices

Mike on Sunday said “*I don’t believe we have a hearing problem, I believe we have a listening problem. The question isn’t ‘are we listening?’; but ‘who are we listening to?’*”. **What is the difference between hearing and listening? What do you think he meant in the second sentence?**

Mike said there are two main voices throughout our lives. **What are those two voices found in John 10:10?** Mike used the words condemnation, accusation, affirmation & conviction to show the differences between them.

**What influence or power does “the thief” have over a Christian’s thought processes? Does every bad thought or temptation come from “the thief”?**

**When have you found yourself wrestling between which voice to listen to? Can we make ourselves quicker to listen to the Holy Spirit?**

### 2 – Destroying strongholds

Read 1 Corinthians 10:3-5. **What is a stronghold?**

**In relation to the two voices what does it mean to take every thought captive to obey Christ? Are there areas in your life that still need to be taken captive?**

Mike challenged us by saying; “*The enemy wages a war of containment.*” **How does the enemy contain Christians? What is he trying to keep us from doing?**

**What strongholds in ourselves, our families, workplaces & our city are you passionate about seeing brought down?**

### 3 – Set free from condemnation

**What do you know about the context of Psalm 51? In verse 14 David used the word “bloodguiltiness” what sin was that in reference to?**

Read silently Psalm 51 together. **Which parts stand out to each of you?**

**In Revelation 12:10 what is the accusation that the thief accuses us with?**

**Why is being set free from past condemnation so important for our effectiveness as Christians today? Is there anything that you need to be set free from?**

If you have time finish by reading Psalm 103 together.