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Begin your time by sharing how your week has been, both the good and bad.

In this series, we've been walking through the Lord's Prayer line by line. In our final week, we're looking at the last line Jesus teaches His disciples to pray: **"Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one."** (Long ago, the church added, "For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever" as a concluding sentence for using the prayer in worship services, even though Jesus didn't say those words in Matthew 6.)

We live in a postmodern world that has a difficult time thinking about the concept of "evil." However, Jesus had no problem identifying "the evil one" and warning His followers repeatedly about the danger. This week's message explores two of the dangers we face from the evil one:

1) The evil one lies about who God is.

Read Genesis 2:7-9. Here we find the phrase "Lord" used to describe God, denoting His ultimate and all-encompassing power and rulership. But read what happens soon after in Genesis 3:1. Why do you think the serpent chooses not to refer to the Creator as "LORD God"?

We see this again when the evil one comes to tempt Jesus in the wilderness. Satan tries to diminish God's authority and get Jesus to go along with it. How has your own trust in God's authority been attacked in the past?

2) The evil one lies about who I am.

Read Matthew 16:18-23. Notice how Jesus changes Simon's name to something new in verse 18. Jesus chose an uneducated fisherman as the pillar of the Church. He wanted Peter to realize that God had created him for this; this was Peter's true identity. But even as Jesus reveals Peter's true identity, Satan wants to snatch it away. Describe a lie that the evil one has whispered to you about who you are, and share how God has helped you to overcome it:

End your time by praying together.



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