There is no neutral ground in the universe; every square inch, every split second, is claimed by God and counter-claimed by Satan.

C.S. Lewis

I. WHO ARE DEMONS?

1. Demons are fallen angels who joined Satan's rebellion against God

Then there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon and his angels. And the dragon lost the battle, and he and his angels were forced out of heaven. This great dragon—the ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, the one deceiving the whole world—was thrown down to the earth with all his angels.

Revelation 12:7-9 (NLT)

2. Demons have limited power, influence and knowledge

No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us. And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love. No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:37-39 (NLT)

3. Demons have already been defeated and disarmed through the cross

When you were stuck in your old sin-dead life, you were incapable of responding to God. God brought you alive—right along with Christ! Think of it! All sins forgiven, the slate wiped clean, that old arrest warrant canceled and nailed to Christ's Cross. He stripped all the spiritual tyrants in the universe of their sham authority at the Cross and marched them naked through the streets.

Colossians 2:13-15 (The Message)

Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation, power, kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Messiah have come. The one accusing our brothers and sisters, the one accusing them day and night in the presence of our God, has been thrown out. They won the victory over him because of the blood of the lamb and the word of their testimony.

Revelation 12:10-11 (GOD'S WORD)

II. WHAT DO DEMONS DO?

1. Demons follow Satan's wicked lead, agenda, and methods

The devil was a murderer from the beginning...He's a liar and the father of lies.

John 8:44 (GOD'S WORD)

2. Demons try to destroy the influence of the Gospel

Satan, who is the god of this world, has blinded the minds of those who don't believe. They are unable to see the glorious light of the Good News. They don't understand this message about the glory of Christ, who is the exact likeness of God.

2 Corinthians 4:4-5 (NLT)

3. Demons seek to control people's lives

When an evil spirit leaves a person, it travels through the desert, looking for a place to rest. But when it doesn't find a place, it says, "I will go back to the home I left." When it gets there and finds the place clean and fixed up, it goes off and finds seven other evil spirits even worse than itself. They all come and make their home there, and that person ends up in worse shape than before.

Luke 11:24-26 (CEV)

III. HOW CAN I DEFEAT THE FORCES OF EVIL?

1. Utilize the power of the Spiritual Disciplines

The weapons we use in our fight are not the world's weapons but God's powerful weapons, which we use to destroy strongholds. We destroy false arguments; we pull down every proud obstacle that is raised against the knowledge of God; we take every thought captive and make it obey Christ.

2 Corinthians 10:4-5 (TEV)

You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.

1 John 4:4 (NIV)

2. Repent of the sin in my life

Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord,

Acts 3:19 (NIV)

So place yourselves under God's authority. Resist the devil, and he will run away from you.

James 4:7 (GOD'S WORD)

3. Avoid any involvement in the occult

Do not defile yourselves by turning to mediums or to those who consult the spirits of the dead. I am the LORD your God.

Leviticus 19:31 (NLT)

Don't give the Devil that kind of foothold in your life.

Ephesians 4:27 (The Message)