

## Foothold 101

Paul said in 2 Corinthians 2:11 that "We are not to be ignorant of Satan's devices" and in Ephesians 4:27 warns us about giving the enemy a foothold.

Based on the chapter of Ephesians 4, there are numerous things listed in this chapter where the enemy can gain a foothold in our life. I am going to look at only a few of the verses but there are many others in Ephesians 4 that apply too.

Before I go on, keep in mind that not one person is free from being responsible for their own words or actions. I believe the Lord is trying to gain our attention today concerning things in our life that are not of Him.

4:14, "That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive"

4:17-19 "that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart: Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness"

4:25-26, "Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbor: for we are members one of another. Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath:"

Looking at Ephesians 4:26 a bit closer it actually explains a number of things to avoid so we do not give the devil a foothold in our lives:

Put away lying (this includes your opinions because opinions are not always facts)

Speak truth

Don't let the sun go down on your anger (how many times have you done this one?).

It is during pressure times that we can grieve the Holy Spirit by how we react to difficult situations. If we give the difficulties the power to control us, this gives the

enemy a foothold into our lives. God has promised us that He will not give us more than we can handle regardless of how much pressure comes against us.

It obvious in all of these verses other people are somehow involved and it's not in a good way. You must keep in mind that the enemy loves to manipulate situations in the attempt to destroy you and will often uses others to do it.

Many times the enemy will use wounded areas within our souls as a means to control us or situations. It's so important for you to resolve in your own heart why something hurt you or made you angry. If not, you can guarantee the enemy will use whatever he can to hinder or harm you.

Galatians 5:17 talks about the flesh setting its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh. They are in continual opposition to one another, but if you are led by the Spirit you can overcome the hurt.

This Word is full importance and emphasizes how we are to live. If you have certain issues you need to deal with them quickly or else they will become a foothold used against you.

Heavenly Father- Please examine my life. I don't want to give the devil a foothold in my life Lord, I am asking You to help me stay free of offense, free of unforgiveness, and free of bitterness.. So I'm asking You, Lord, to help me identify every wrong feeling or attitude in my life that the enemy could use against me. Thank you for helping me. Thank you for showing me. I know in you I can overcome all things. In Jesus Name.

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