Encounter God
Retreat & Instructor’s Guide

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This is simply the title slide to transition from the worship, icebreaker and announcement to the teaching portion of this session.

Make sure participants have their manuals and are ready to make notes as God reveals to them areas in their lives that He wants them to experience freedom.

As we live in the world, we can tell we are in the midst of warfare, but as Christians we are often confused about the nature of this war and who our enemies are.

To understand the war and how to win it, we must look to Scripture.

Read this Scripture together aloud.

It is a spiritual war. There are spiritual forces that want to destroy us. The enemy is not people (the liberals or the government or non-Christians). We do not fight against people but against “spiritual forces of evil.”

This war began in heaven and it has moved to earth. Heaven’s residents are relieved that the battle shifted from heaven to earth; now we are the ones with the problem! “Rejoice, you heavens... But woe to the earth!”
1. Understanding Spiritual Warfare

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)

➤ There is a battle going on out there! Are you fighting to win?

It's a War Out There!

1. Western Christians often don’t realize it.

Our fight is not against flesh and blood. (Ephesians 6:12)

And there was war in heaven. . . . and . . . The great dragon was hurled down — that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him. . . . Therefore rejoice, you heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has gone down to you! (Revelation 12:7-12)