

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

1. As you look back over your Christian life thus far, where do you see that the devil has directed the most obvious attacks? Where are the chinks in your armour?

WORLDVIEW

2. In any conflict and war there is a cause, possession or purpose that is being attacked or defended. What is our spiritual battle all about?

INTO THE BIBLE

3. What’s love got to do with it? As you read the following passages consider your estimation of the significance of love in the battle that rages. What needs to change in your attitude towards love and in the object of your love?

Matthew 16:21–26—From that time Jesus began to show to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day. Then Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “Far be it from you, Lord; this shall not happen to you!” But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are an offence to me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men.” Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If anyone desires to come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?”

1 John 2:15–17—Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.

