

AMBER ALERT | Week 2

Recap last week, amber alert and going after the lost sheep.

- I was on my way to a baseball tournament one time and remember this is the day before everyone had a smartphone. This was the day you went on to MapQuest and typed in your location and then printed out directions and you followed it. So, no automatic rerouting. So, me and a kid named Grant are driving out to this tournament and we are traveling, and we make our turn and knew we had about 30 miles on this road or so. However about 15 miles on this road we look at each other and say we don't think this is the right road. So, we pull over and are looking at the map and realize we made a turn about a mile too soon and that quickly we were so far away from where we were supposed to be
 - o the point is this, do we think we're on the right road but in reality, completely headed the wrong direction.
- This week my question: Is there an amber alert for your life?
- John 10:10 Satan comes to steal kill and destroy. This is not just talking about other people. This is also talking about us. And our lives.
- 1 Peter 5:8
 - o ... Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour
- So, we must stay alert
- Proverbs 4:23 Above all else guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it. (NIV)
- When forming your battle plan or game plan on the defensive side you must first understand how the opposition will attack you.
- How will Satan try to destroy you?
 - o He will lie to you about who you are
 - Not a good enough Christian, you can't make a difference, you are not valuable, you're weird, you're alone, God does not really care for you
 - o He will attack your emotions
 - Well, this doesn't feel right
 - I feel like...
 - I feel like I really like them even though they don't love Jesus or don't love Jesus like they should. Even though they have a lot of potential
 - I need to show them how much I love them but... I know God does not want me to go that far. I feel like they will break up with me if I don't go so far with them
 - o He will try to convince you of a better way to live
 - Genesis 3
 - Did God actually say....
 - The bible says this but.... It was only for then. Or it doesn't work during today's world
 - o Satan Doesn't want you to see it coming

- Just like boiling a frog you go slow
- How to guard yourself
 - Submit to God – James 4:7
 - Many times, we feel as if we have to fight on our own, or it's our battle to fight. But God says to submit
 - Submit – *hupotasso* means to rank under.
 - We have to remember that God is the leading warrior and we have to remember our place
 - Troy- his nephew thought he was good enough ended up losing because he went it on his own
 - Speak scripture out loud
 - Matthew 4, the temptation of Jesus. Jesus spoke scripture out loud when he was being tempted.
 - I want to give you more but I'm going to move quicker. People fight differently and need to be prepared to fight different types of attacks.
 - The armor of God
 - Belt of truth- you're going to be truthful every day, knowing that the battle is real and being ready for it
 - Breastplate of righteousness- ready to live a life of obedience, living holy
 - Shoes of readiness- do you have the right shoes, do you know where you stand,
 - Helmet of salvation- realization of our position in Christ
 - Sword of the spirit- word of God - praying at all times

Discussion Questions:

1. What ways does Satan attack you?
2. What are the best ways for you to guard yourself?
3. How can you help each other?