

On Your Own

The spirit world is real and very much a part of our daily lives. And, unfortunately, many people engage in spiritual activities or have certain beliefs about them which may seem harmless, but, in actuality are extremely dangerous. To fool with the supernatural without any real knowledge of what you are doing can be deadly.

- 1 There is an extensive list of spiritual activities that God forbids. In modern terms we would include psychics, tarot card readers, séances, Ouija boards, etc. Deuteronomy 18:9 – 12

What is God's view of these occult activities?

What occult practices have you had experiences with?

Manasseh, King of Israel, tried many occult practices.
2 Chronicles 33:6

- 2 God will give you armor against Satan. Ephesians 6:11 – 12
Romans 16:20
James 4:7

It can be disturbing to learn that Satan and his demonic spirits are real. What help and protection does God give you in this spiritual warfare?
Ephesians 6:13 – 18

How does God's armor differ from the armor that you might have expected?

- 3 The human mind can be a battlefield of warring thoughts, emotions, fears and desires.
2 Corinthians 10:3 – 5

God expects you to control your thoughts. What thoughts do you need Jesus' help to take captive and lock up?

How would you describe your mind and attitude?
Isaiah 26:3 – 4
Philippians 2:5 – 9

- 4 What do you believe about near-death experiences?
John 11:38 – 44

You must evaluate your resources.
2 Corinthians 11:13 – 15
Matthew 24:4
Colossians 2:8

Why is it necessary to evaluate the source and content of spiritual experiences?

- 5 Spiritual conflicts abound in the Bible. Acts 13:6 – 12

What was the conflict with Bar-Jesus?

Revealing your occult practices can help you to shed them.
Acts 19:18 – 20

What practices do you need to leave behind? Think of it as spiritual housecleaning.



The Adventure That Lasts For Eternity

Summer 2011

Session 8 Peeking Behind The Curtain

On Your Own from Session 7

Religion and Faith

Religious Ideas and Concepts

Finding Truth

Selecting YOUR Path

Uniqueness of Christianity

Spiritual Distortion

Jesus: The Only Way to God

Discussion

Video Outline

Seeking spiritual answers

- Nontraditional sources
- Watch for counterfeits
- Watch for “spiritual terrorists”
- Watch for accuracy and consistency
- Deuteronomy 18:21 - 22

Religion and faith

- Test against the Bible
- Isaiah 8:19

Spiritual dangers

- Warnings from the Bible
- Leviticus 19:31
- Leviticus 20:6
- Bring bondage and ruin
- Flee from involvement

Talking with the dead

- Forbidden in the Bible
- Alternative: talk to God

Near-death experiences

- Interesting, compelling accounts
- Hebrews 9:27

- Contradictory reports
- Not verifiable
- Evaluate the reports against Scripture

Discussion Questions

- 1 What experiences to you have with occult activities such as psychics, séances, Ouija boards, fortune tellers? How did these experiences affect you?
- 2 Can a person truly be neutral and not be harmed when involved in these activities?
- 3 Why do you think that the Bible never records a near-death experience?