

# Recognize Satan's Darts

## DARTS are:

1. **Destructive** (John 10:10): sent to rob and destroy. Their purpose is to draw us away from God's good and satisfying will. They push us toward something we feel uneasy about by causing us to doubt the validity of our reservations. Or they pull us away from something good. *You'll offend your neighbor if you invite her to Bible study.*
2. **Accusing** (Revelation 12:10): condemning, criticizing, and blaming. They tell us how selfish and rebellious we are to want something or how cowardly we are not to do something. The devil misused Scripture when he tempted Jesus. If a verse oppresses you, the enemy is twisting it against you. *If you weren't so—selfish, cowardly, or unforgiving—you'd...*
3. **Rule-oriented** (Galatians 3): relying on standards for righteousness instead of Jesus' imputed righteousness. These thoughts tell us if we don't obey them then we aren't being loving or good Christians. For example: *Good Christians always serve others. If you don't help him, how will he ever know Christ?*
4. **Tempting** (Matthew 14:3): offering ways to meet your needs apart from God. *People will respect you if... Or, Hurry, you'll miss out.*
5. **Slandorous**: (Devil means slanderer) maligning the character of God, others, or yourself. *God doesn't care about you. Or, Your spouse is so stubborn.*

## Jesus is our:

1. **Deliverer**: Jesus' words bring life and peace. "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace" (John 16:33). *Are these thoughts empowering or destructive?*
2. **Advocate**: Jesus never uses guilt, shame, or bullying to motivate us. "If anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous" (1 John 2:1). *Does this motivate me to repent and be grateful for salvation, or does it cause me to be self-absorbed?*
3. **Righteousness**: Our righteousness is found in Christ, not in our performance. (Romans 8:1-4). "God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God" (2 Corinthians 5:21). *Do I accept myself based on Christ's performance or mine?*
4. **Tower of strength**: Jesus infuses us with courage to stand alone, to wait, to be still and know. "The name of the LORD is a fortified tower; the righteous run to it and are safe." (Proverbs 18:10). *Is this thought promoting satisfaction and gratitude, or is it creating greed, dissatisfaction, or the fear of missing out?*
5. **Shield**: Jesus is with us, for us—interceding, and guiding. His Spirit bears witness with ours that we belong to Him and empowers us with love and patience. See Romans 8:14-17; 31-39. "But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us." *Is this thought true? How does it align with God's character?*