

July 16, 2025

# Chapter 3

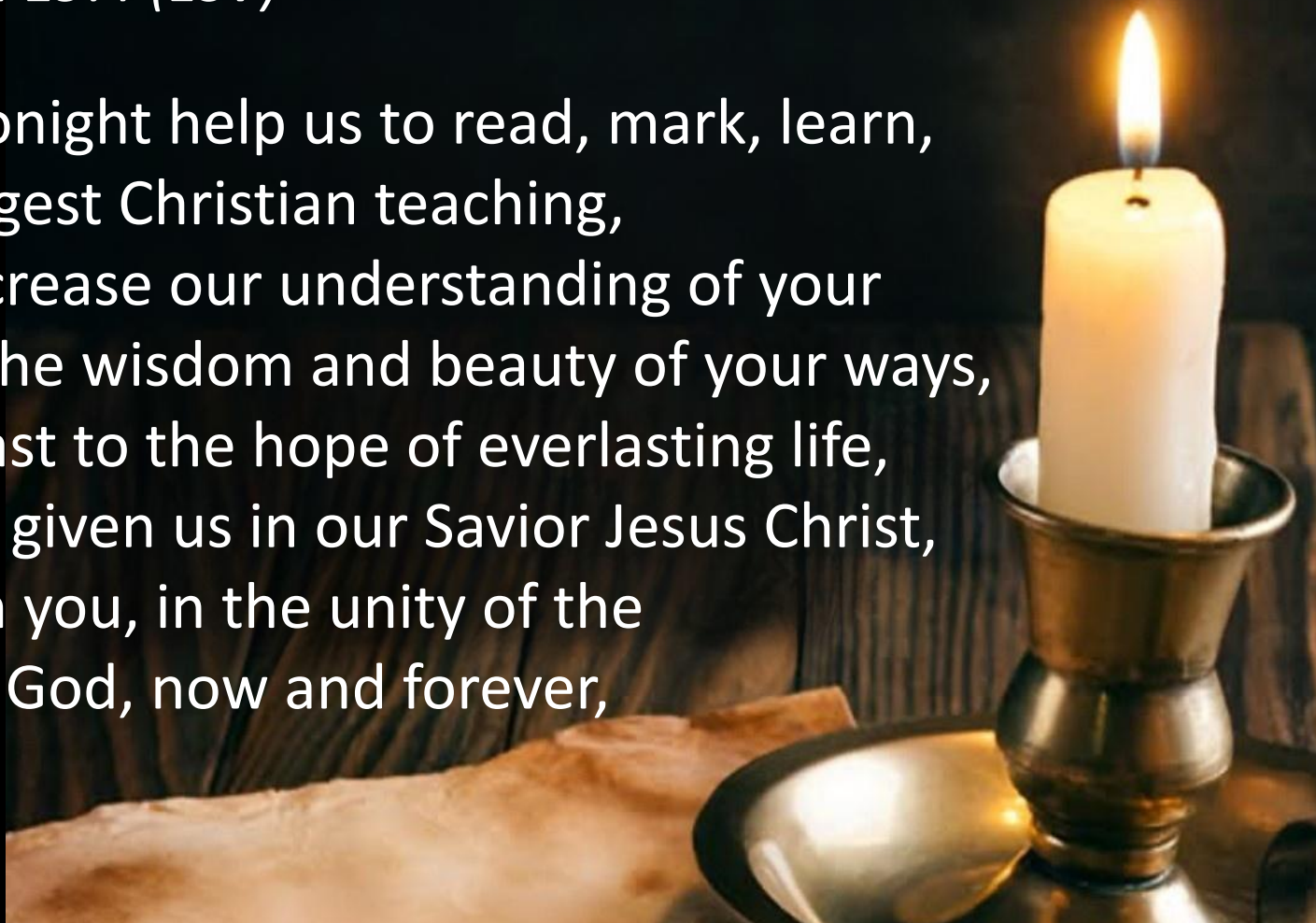
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# Opening Prayers:

*“Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer” Psalm 19:4 (ESV)*

**Blessed Lord**, tonight help us to read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest Christian teaching, that we may increase our understanding of your character, and the wisdom and beauty of your ways, and may hold fast to the hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ, who reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever,  
**Amen**



# Warning



**“Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.”**

**(1 Peter 5:8)**

**Questions about  
the content of  
chapter three?**




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# Weekly Questions:

- What is the main theme of this letter?
- What characteristics of either God and/or the devils are revealed?
- What are the habits or beliefs Screwtape believes can hurt the patient?
- Have these habits, beliefs, or similar been used against you in your life?
- How can Christians defend against attacks like these?

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Weekly Questions:

- **What is the main theme of this letter?**

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# Key Theme:



## Family Relationships

### Screwtape : Build “Domestic Hatred”

- Turn off: thoughts of charity, humility, forgiveness
- Focus on: Interpersonal grievances, habits of “mutual annoyance” and passive-aggressive “warfare”
- Turn off: True Spiritual self-reflection
- Encourage: Spiritual and Relational Hypocrisy.






“In civilized life, domestic hatred usually expresses itself in by saying things that would appear quite harmless on paper (the *words* are not offensive) but in such a voice, or at such a moment, that they are not far short of a blow in the face”

(Screwtape letters, chapter 3)





Weekly Questions:

- **What characteristics of either God and/or the devils are revealed?**

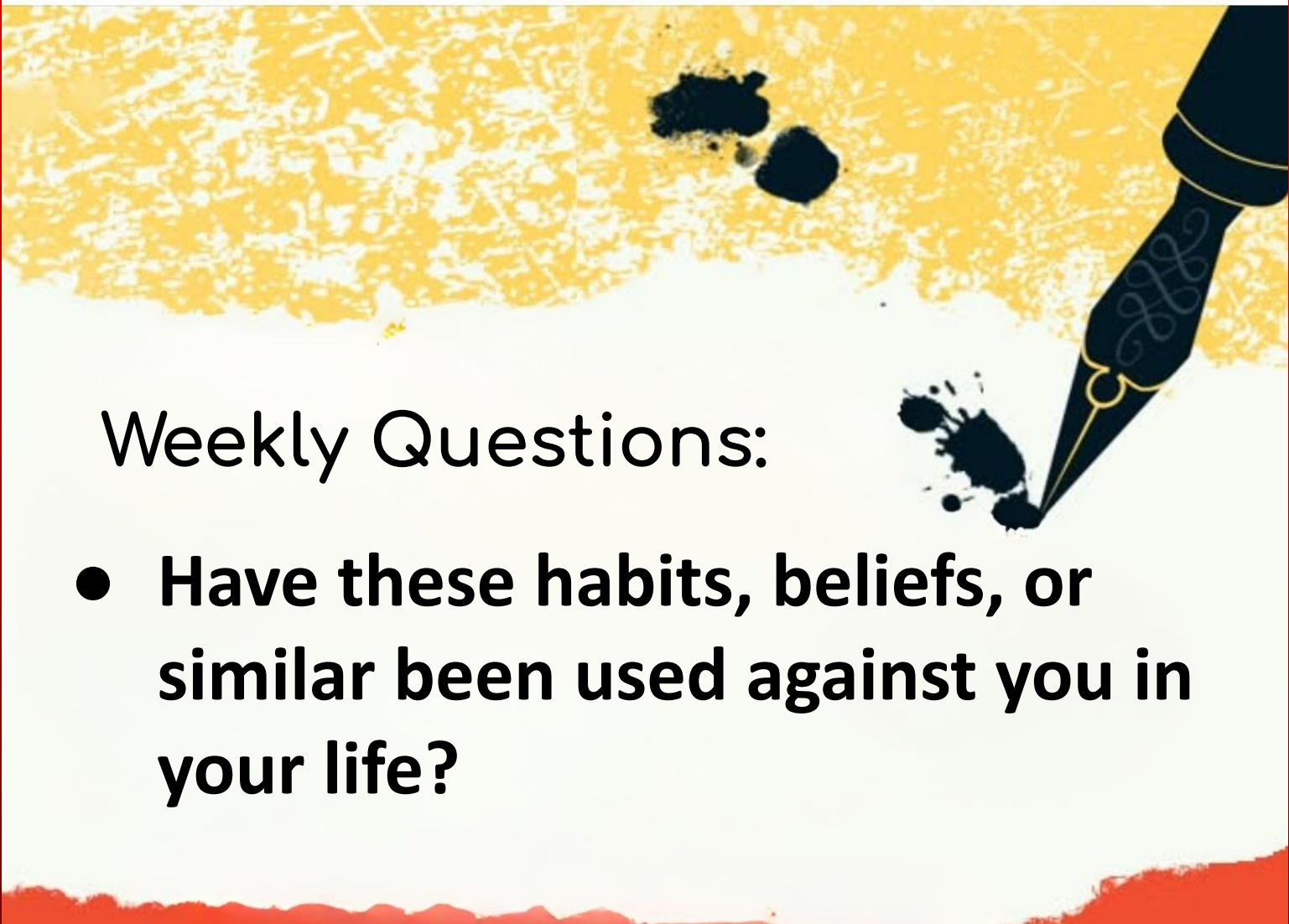
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Weekly Questions:

- **What are the habits or beliefs Screwtape believes can be used to hurt the patient?**

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Weekly Questions:

- **Have these habits, beliefs, or similar been used against you in your life?**

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Weekly Questions:

- **How can Christians defend against attacks like these?**

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# Waging the War:



## Taking Aim Against Relationships:

What is the function of family relationships in Christ?

Destroying our closest relationships ruins our daily opportunities for: learning humility, learning self-control, learning to serve others, practicing the fruits of the spirit.

**But most importantly, it destroys our witness for Christ:**

“A new command I give you: that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” John 13:34-35

# The Armor of God

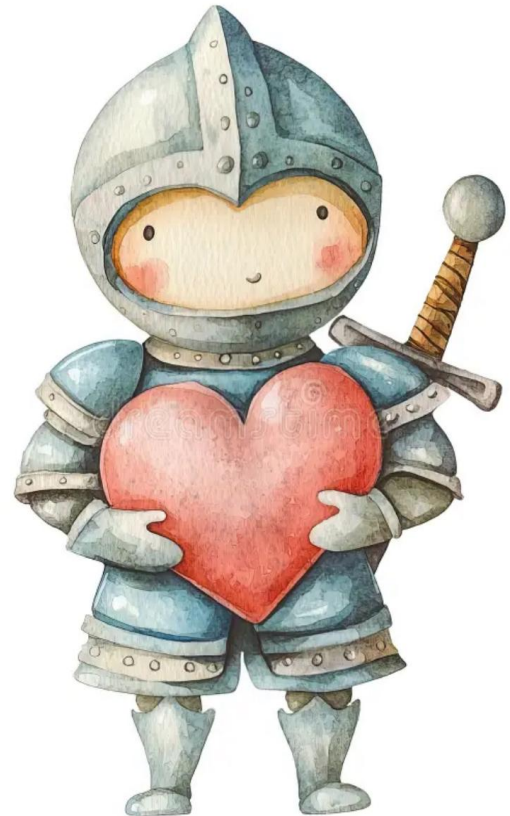
**Defensive Skill:** Bear with one another in Love.

**Ephesians 4:2**

**“Be completely humble  
and gentle; be patient,  
bearing with one another  
in Love”**

***How do we learn to “bear with  
one another”?***

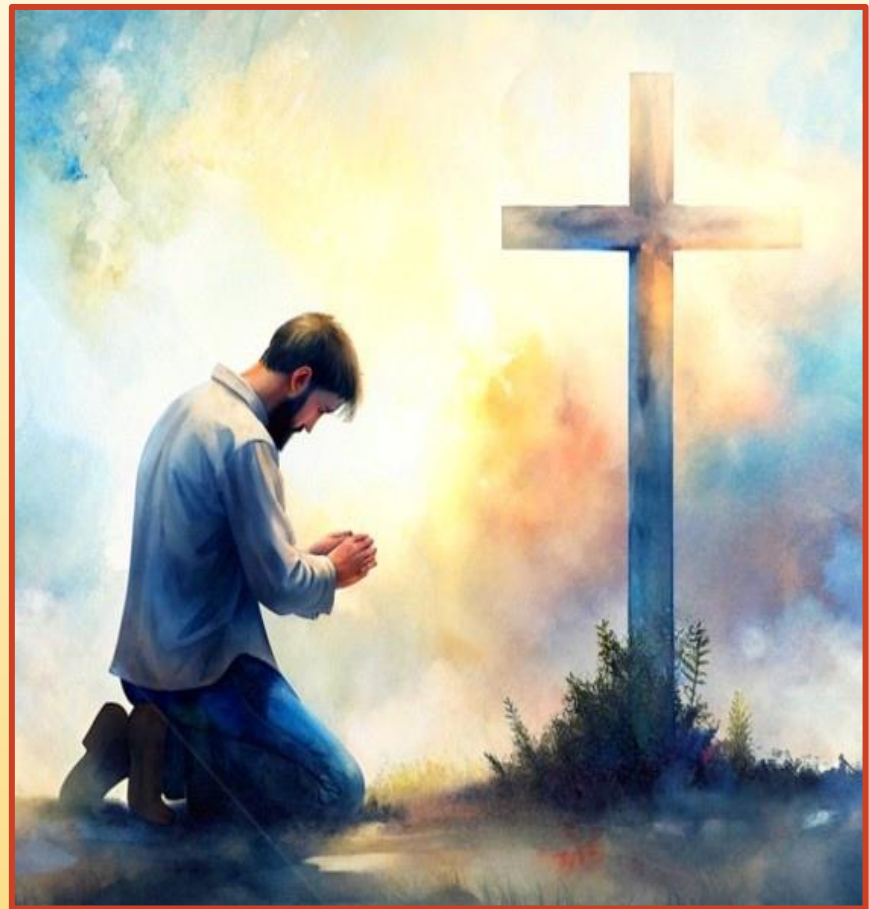
**Three aspects...**





## First: Recognize our own sinfulness

**1 Peter 2:4-5** “If someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore him gently. But, watch yourselves, or you also may be tempted.”



**Matthew 7:3-4** “How can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye’, when there is a log in your own eye? You hypocrite! First take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother’s eye.”



## Second: Pay attention to our Speech

**Proverbs 15:1** “A gentle answer turns away wrath,  
but a harsh word stirs up anger.”

**Ephesians 4:29** “Don’t use foul or abusive language, let  
everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words  
will be an encouragement to those who hear them”

# We Pray...

“Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.”

*In other words...*

“Do **NOT** forgive us our trespasses, as we have **NOT** forgiven those who trespass against us.”





# Third: Prioritize Forgiveness

## Colossians 3:12-13

**“Clothe yourself in compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if anyone has a grievance against someone. *Forgive as the LORD forgave you.*”**

**Ephesians 4:32** **“Be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ forgave you. ”**





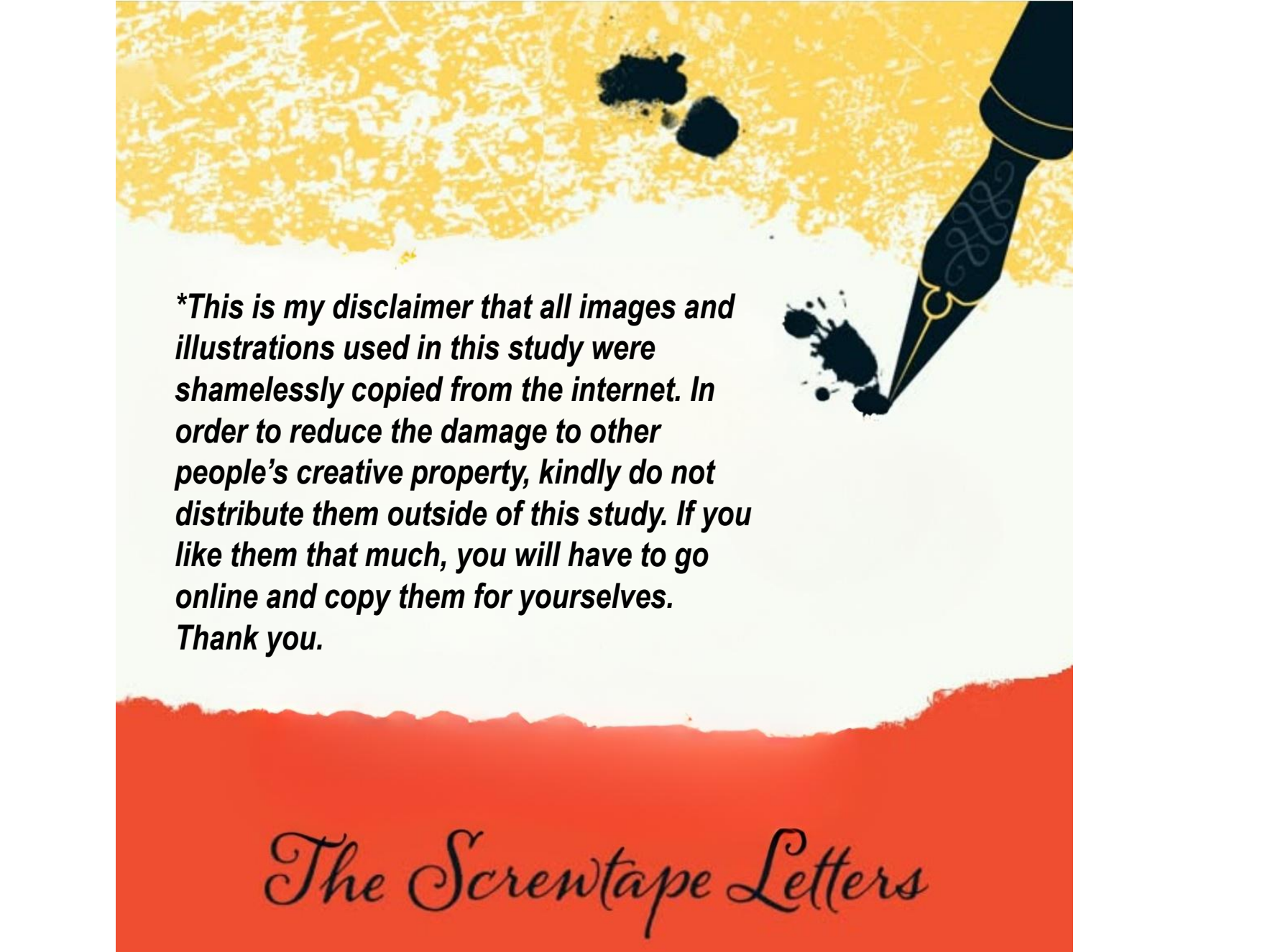


# Memory verse



“Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.” Ephesians 6:10-11





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# Prayer Requests

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# Closing Prayer

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