

4 Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.² This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God,³ but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world.

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We then asked, **what do angels look like?** We said that technically, since they are spirit beings, they are invisible to our human eyes. However, they can also take the form of virtually anything that they need to, including other humans. You may also feel their presence when they are nearby.

This brought us to our next question, **do angels interact with humans?** Yes, absolutely. Sometimes they are visible and other times they are not. Sometimes they interact with us in our visions or dreams (without the distractions of the world). When they do visibly appear to us they will usually take whatever form we need them in at the time or whatever form they need to be in to get the job done. We then looked at just a few places in the Bible where angels interacted with humans and said that they still do so today. We talked about several instances where we've seen angels in action.

We then asked, **how strong are angels?** Angels have the super human power of God to allow them to carry out the will of God, whatever it may be. We looked in **2 Kings 19:35** to see one single angel protected the Israelites by killing 185,000 enemy soldiers in a single night.

We said God also created the angels with **free will**, just like us. Also, just like us, some angels chose to use their free will to go against God. One of these angels was Lucifer who we now know as Satan. When Lucifer chose to go against God, he was banished to Earth along with the other angels who also chose to go against God. We know these former angels as demons. We looked at the various names used.

We pointed out that God banished Lucifer and his followers to Earth. He did **NOT** give them authority and dominion over the Earth, that was given to Adam (until he chose to give it away but then Jesus returned it to us through Him). That being the case, Satan and his demons cannot do anything to us or even make us do anything we don't want to do. But, as we've said before, they can lie to us and deceive us to influence our thoughts and our decisions.

So of course we then asked, **what do demons do?** Basically, anything that goes against God and His creation. **John 10:10** tells us that the enemy comes to "steal, kill, and destroy", all of God's creation.

We then looked in **Luke 8:26-28** and saw how terrified the demons in a possessed man were when they saw

Jesus. We said that since we also have the same power of God in us, demons and even Satan himself should be just as terrified of us as they are of Jesus.

We finished up with the most important question of the day. Since according to God's Word, angels AND demons do exist all around us in any form of their choosing at any time, **how do we know if we are encountering an angel or a demon?**

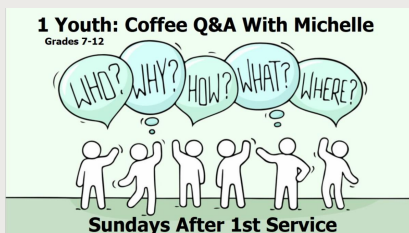
We found the answer in **1 John 4:1-3** which tells us that any spirit that acknowledges Jesus is from God while those that do not acknowledge Jesus are not from God.

Remember: The Holy Spirit within us or any angel sent by God will never go against God's character or His Word and will always glorify God and His creation.

Join us Sunday April 30th for Church Family Feud!

New Youth Game Room

The games have all been moved, along with some great new ones, into the annex (down the hall past Pastor Jeff's office). Come check it out before or after service!



Coffee Q&A with Michelle after 1st service **Sunday!**

Join us in the Youth Room every Sunday, after 1st service, for refreshments in a casual atmosphere for an opportunity for you and your friends to ask questions and discuss answers to your most pressing questions about God, Jesus, the Bible, other Religions, Christianity, or just about Life in general.

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