

If I Were the Devil... (Part 4)

If I were the devil I would hang out with your preacher. I think if he and I could get really close, then I could have a significant effect on others! I could influence a whole congregation of Christians, not to mention all of his little “preacher friends”.

The first thing I want your preacher to do is to quit reading his Bible so much. He needs to read what others are talking about and what others say about the Bible. Once he stops growing and his knowledge of “the big guy upstairs” begins to wane, I can fill his sermons with stories as opposed to scripture. This should make everyone happy – audiences like stories and the preacher will not have to study as hard. I figure if I keep him really busy then he won’t have as much time to prepare and study. This will affect the sermons, the Bible classes, and the entire congregation.

And if I can keep him really busy running from thing to thing he will burn out sooner. Then he will be tired and he won’t try as hard. Who knows? Maybe I could get him to quit!

I want your preacher to have soap boxes and lots of them. Not that I have anything against abortion or homosexuality, but if that’s all he talks about then you will stop listening. And besides, if he’s busy talking about “hot topics” that means he’s not talking about faith, baptism, grace, and love – I hate those things!

What I would really like is to have your preacher get too close to someone who is not his wife. Do you know how many families and churches I have destroyed with that kind of setup? Please don’t think your preacher is immune to selfishness and temptation. Actually, keep thinking that – then when he falls it will have more impact.

Maybe I should work on the ego of your preacher – make him feel like he’s hot stuff. If I get him more worried about his popularity than the gospel, then that would really affect how much scripture is being taught. If he gets a little arrogant then that can really help my cause. Nothing is better for me than a power hungry preacher. I’ll get him acting like a pastor and who knows what trouble we can get in to.

I realize I am making plans for the preacher, but I want to work on you too. I need you to trust everything the preacher says without checking it out. I want you to put a lot of stock in him. I want you to hold him to a ridiculously high standard and put immense pressure on him to be perfect. I want you to think that he is somehow different than everyone else at church. This way, when I lead him astray you will follow right behind him.

Obviously these are very serious issues and concerns. No doubt Satan wants to accomplish these things – anything he can do to hinder or destroy a congregation, he will do it. The issue of preachers committing adultery is a scary trend. I don’t know how many preachers have fallen into this trap over the past few years – it is an alarming number. My reasoning for this specific article is twofold: 1. You need to be warned that I am not the be-all, end-all of

Christianity. I am a man. I make mistake. I need help from you just like any other Christian. 2. I need to be warned of how Satan attacks preachers. Trust me...we are not immune!