

Sisters for Yah

ARE YOU AN EASY TARGET?

We know that our adversary, Satan, the devil, roams around the earth, seeking whom he may devour (1 Pet. 5:8). But is there a way we can make ourselves a harder target for him? Years ago, I remember a police officer giving a presentation about how to make yourself less likely to become a victim of a violent crime. He said, “Most criminals want an easy target. You have to make yourself a harder target. If you are too difficult to subdue, most criminals will move on to someone easier.” Interesting, indeed, is it not? Scripture tells us that if we resist the devil, he will flee from us. In other words, he will move on to an easier “victim” if you make it too hard for him to take you down.

Let’s run with this idea for a moment. This is not an exhaustive list, obviously, but here are some ideas to make yourself a harder target. These ideas are not my own, but a compilation of what other believers have said.

“You have to stay in Yahweh’s Word! Fill your mind with good and lovely things, and while you are at it, praise Yahweh. The devil can’t abide with you while you are singing praises to Yahweh.”

“Stop comparing yourself to other people. Stop wanting what they have—whether it be a certain job, spouse, home, whatever. Jealousy is a poison that can kill you if you don’t watch out.”

“Always fill your mind with positive thoughts. Negativity never attracts good things. Discouragement is a tool of the devil. Pray that Yahweh will remove any negativity from your mind and heart.”

“Practice gratitude every single day. Make a list of all the things you are thankful for. Most people forget to thank Yahweh for clean air, pure water, good food, and a roof over their heads. They would rather complain about everything. People complain so much that they can’t see the blessings right in front of them.”

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you can't expect Yahweh to bless you. If you know you have a struggle with a certain thing, don't go anywhere near the temptation. For instance, if you're trying to overcome alcoholism, it would be foolish to go to a bar after work with your coworkers. Never think that you'll be strong enough to fight the temptation, especially if you are a new believer. Building spiritual "muscle" takes some time and effort."

"Satan knows that most people have an agenda when they start attending religious services. Some have openly said that they only got baptized to 'save their skin'. They had no other desire except to escape the lake of fire. Others have assumed that all their problems would disappear once they came into the faith. Nowhere in Scripture does it say all your problems will disappear. In fact, you may actually see some new problems. It's natural to want to avoid pain and suffering, but we have to remember that our Savior and His disciples suffered tremendously. If they suffered, we can certainly expect to suffer. So the key is to put all your trust in Yahweh no matter what happens. We have to come to a place where we realize that our lives belong to Yahshua. We were bought with a price. Our personal hopes and dreams are nothing compared to eternity. Seek first the Kingdom."

"Stay away from modern day witchcraft. It seems a lot of believers are still involved with stuff they shouldn't be. Don't watch evil, demonic movies, or listen to worldly music that contains evil lyrics. We MUST fill our minds with good things from Yahweh. We live in the world, but we must not be 'of' the world. Nowadays, everything you see on TV has an agenda, trying to 'normalize' and 'desensitize' people to the devil's way. And be careful of what you view on the internet. You can find anything on the internet, good and bad. Don't assume the person presenting the video online is an expert in anything. I once knew a man who left the faith after getting caught up in anti-Scripture videos that claimed that Biblical people were not real, just mythical made-up characters."

"Overcome fear. Many people are so afraid of everything. World events, other people, and the list goes on and on. Yahweh does not give us a spirit of fear. Perfect love casts out fear. Pray for Yahweh's perfect peace, and trust Him with your life!"

Well, sisters, there you have it. I found many interesting perspectives from others in writing this article. Thanks to all who shared with me their honest opinions about how to make themselves a harder target for the devil. May we all be blessed as we overcome to the end.

"Try your hardest to forgive others. Unforgiveness will make you suffer needlessly. You need to let go of the past! Stop reliving all the bad things that happened to you."

"Women can make themselves a harder target by dressing modestly. The less you draw attention to yourself, the better."

"Don't blame Satan for everything. We all have to make the right choices. At the same time, don't underestimate Satan. Many believers have overconfidently said, 'Satan's got nothing on me'! Then shortly thereafter, they leave the faith at the slightest trial that comes their way."

"Stop flirting with sin. If you know it's wrong to do something, don't do it! If you keep falling back into sin,



Are you a burden-bearer?

We find an interesting Scripture in Galatians 6:2 which tells us, “*Bear one another’s burden, and so fulfill the law of Messiah.*”

Let’s get one thing clear: Yahweh knows everything. When Yahweh places people in your life who are in need, He is certainly aware of what they need. Oftentimes, we are able to meet those needs. Many of us come in contact with needy people. It is very important to go to Yahweh and ask, “You put me here for a reason. You knew this was going to happen. What did You intend to do through me that would help this person become closer to You?”

It’s very easy to become frustrated by the problems of others. They can overwhelm you as you become aware of need after need. Many of us have even gone into debt trying to help others. But there needs to be balance and equity. Sometimes, people run to others for help, when they were easily able to help themselves. The Bible also says, *For every man shall bear his own burden*, Galatians 6:5). Years ago, an able-bodied, homeless man showed up at the Assembly asking for money. He even said up front, that he’d be willing to work for us. So the elder present, said, “Sure, you can help me do some yard work today, and I’ll pay you for it.” The man’s countenance changed. He grumpily replied, “Never mind. I’ll go ask someone else to help me.”

Other times, it may be easy to help others. You might have a lot of clothes and someone shows up needing clothes, and they happen to be just your size. We need to allow Yahweh to help us see beyond the physical needs of others. Instead of just handing someone money, sit and chat with them and share Yahweh’s truth with them. We may also help by encouraging them to develop skills to get jobs. I’ve always heard the following saying: “Give a man a fish, and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish, and you feed him for a lifetime.” Indeed, this world has produced lazy, selfish people who feel they’re entitled. If you’re not able to meet others’ needs, you might be able to give them resources that can help. Our little town has a soup kitchen and homeless shelter. Research what is available in your area, and keep the numbers handy in case you come in contact with someone who needs help.

Dealing with the multitudes

Have you ever been in a crowd and felt completely overwhelmed? Yahshua had to deal with crowds a lot. Whenever He saw the multitudes, He would have compassion on them and tell them what was on His heart. But sometimes, when the multitudes would press in on Him, He’d withdraw with His disciples and teach them. The disciples did not always understand what He was telling them. (Read John 14:25-26). But Yahshua wanted them to share His love and compassion for other people. Sometimes when we are around people, we feel compelled by Yahweh’s Spirit to share our faith with them. The promptings of the Spirit can be very powerful. Don’t ignore those promptings.



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Broccoli salad

1 large bunch broccoli
1/4 cup red onion, chopped
1/2 cup dried cranberries
1/2 cup chopped walnuts
1/2 cup cooked and crumbled
turkey or beef bacon
Dressing of your choice



Cut the broccoli into florets. Save the stalks for soup or another use. Lightly steam the florets, but they should still be slightly crisp. Allow to cool completely. Place in a bowl with the rest of the ingredients. Toss lightly with the dressing of your choice, or even mayonnaise if you prefer.

Brown Butter Chocolate Chip Cookies

(Submitted by Sister Jan Meyer)



2 sticks butter, browned
(instructions follow)
1 cup packed brown sugar
1/2 cup granulated sugar
2 large eggs
2 t. vanilla extract
2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
1 t. baking soda
1/2 t. salt
1 1/2 cups semi-sweet chocolate chips.

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees and line two baking pans with parchment paper. Begin by browning the butter. Melt the butter in a pan, stirring occasionally. Cook about 5-7

minutes, until the butter foams and turns a deep golden brown. Pour into a large bowl and allow to cool for 10 minutes.

Add both the brown and granulated sugars to the cooled butter. Using an electric mixer, beat until combined and creamy. Mix in the eggs one at a time, followed by the vanilla extract. Beat until smooth.

In a separate bowl, whisk the flour, baking soda and salt. Gradually add the dry ingredients to the wet mixture, mixing just until combined. Be careful not to overmix. The dough should be soft and just come together. Fold in the chocolate chips. Scoop the dough into heaping tablespoons and from them onto the baking sheets, leaving 2 inches between each cookie. Bake 10 to 12 minutes until edges are golden and centers look just set. They should look slightly undone in the center. Let cool for 5 minutes. Transfer to wire rack and cool completely.