

ARE YOU WILLING TO PICK A FIGHT WITH EVIL?

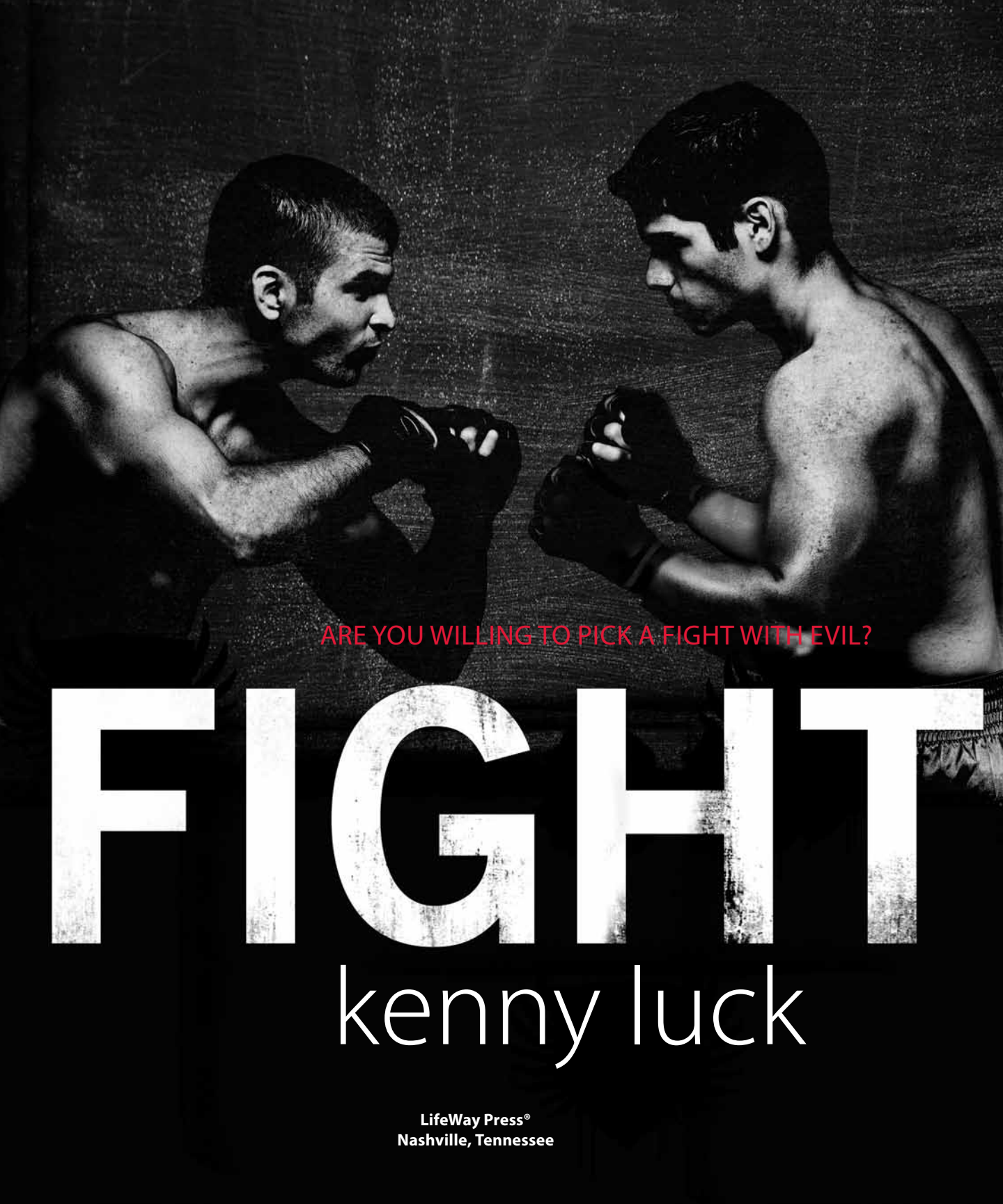
FIGHT

kenny luck

God's man
series

GET STRONG

LifeWay | Men



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Contents

Introduction	08
The <i>Fight</i> Experience	10
Man to Man	12
SESSION 01	
Bring It On!	14
SESSION 02	
Expose the Darkness	30
SESSION 03	
Satan's Résumé	46
SESSION 04	
Evil Agents	62
SESSION 05	
The Enemy's Game Plan	78
SESSION 06	
Engage the Enemy	94
SESSION 07	
Know Your Weapons	110
SESSION 08	
Final Orders	126
Leader Notes	144
Group Directory	158





About the Author

KENNY LUCK is the Men's Pastor at Saddleback Church in Lake Forest, California, where over 7,000 men are connected in small groups. He is also the founder and president of Every Man Ministries which helps churches worldwide develop and grow healthy men's communities.

He is an ECPA Platinum Award Winning Author, who has written and coauthored 20 books, including *RISK*, *DREAM*, *FIGHT*, *SOAR*, *Every Man*, *God's Man*, *Every Young Man*, *God's Man*, and the *Every Man Bible Studies* from the best-selling *Every Man Series*.

Kenny is a trusted expert on men's issues. In addition to logging over 2 million miles in the air to speak to audiences, he has made numerous radio and television appearances that include ABC Family, Christian Broadcasting Network, and over 100 other radio and television programs worldwide. He has been a featured contributor to *Sermon-central.com*, *Christianleader.com*, Rick Warren's *Ministry Toolbox*, *New Man*, *Men of Integrity*, *The Journal*, *Home Life*, *Walk Thru the Bible*, and *Young Believers Magazine*.

So what does he think about all his private and personal achievements?

"None of this matters if my wife and children don't respect me as a man, husband, and father. ... They are my first ministry, and respect by others is meaningless without theirs. My relationships with them are the acid test of my life and ministry. So many parts of me are still broken but God is healing me every day and I wake up every day in awe that His kingdom has come to me and comes through me. Every day I ask myself: "How did I get here?" When I speak I ask myself constantly, "What am I doing here?" or "How do I get to do what I do?" Absolutely none of it makes sense outside the grace of God because I should not be alive."

Kenny is a graduate of UCLA where he met his wife, Chrissy. They have three children, Cara, Ryan, and Jenna and live in Trabuco Canyon, California.



Praise for *Fight*

"I felt like I was reading a Tom Clancy book on spiritual warfare. An enjoyable read on a deadly serious subject. You won't be disappointed."

—David Murrow, author, *Why Men Hate Going to Church*

"Fight is all about a radically alternative way to fight the good fight against the forces of evil in order to finish well with victory! Kenny Luck got my adrenaline pumping. Fight is a 'gotta' read for every Christ warrior."

—Walt Kallestad, author of *Entrepreneurial Faith, A Passionate Life, The Passionate Church, and Turn Your Church Inside Out*, and senior pastor of *Community Church of Joy* in Glendale, Arizona

"It's been said that all evil needs to succeed is for good men to do nothing. Kenny excels at showing the bigger story we're engaged in. Fight is a must read for men to defeat the Enemy where each of us live—in our marriages, our families, and all our spheres of influence."

—Jim Weidmann, "*The Family Night Guy*," senior vice president of *Promise Keepers*, and author of the *Family Night Tool Chest* series

"I always want to know if the author of a book exemplifies what he has written. Kenny Luck certainly does!"

—Tom Holladay, teaching pastor at *Saddleback Church* and author of *Foundations: 11 Core Truths to Build Your Life On*

"As a pastor, I get the joy of seeing how Kenny's message lives out weekly through our men at Saddleback Church. It's not theory, but real! Kenny's passion and calling is making a difference!"

—Doug Slaybaugh, president, *Purpose Driven*

Introduction

This is not your average spiritual warfare workbook. In fact, this one could save your life.

Does that sound melodramatic? Maybe going a bit too far?

As it relates to your preparedness for this business of daily Christian living, and as it concerns your overall spiritual health and well-being, I doubt I could overstate the importance of this workbook's information for the struggle against evil.

The reason is that at this very moment, a war is being fought to the death between good and evil, and it's happening all around us and even inside us. And it never stops. Don't believe me? Turn on the evening news. Talk to a single mom whose husband has left her because he didn't love her anymore. Look at the stats on aborted children, rape victims, suicides, and teens hooked on meth. Deranged shooters taking on schools, ministries, and churches. Elders and pastors whose porn habits are destroying their ministries and families.

Brother, bullets are flying.

At the start, however, I need to warn you that Satan doesn't like you being here. In fact, he hates it, and as you begin to study his personality, his deceptions, and the ways of his co-laborers in evil, you too will earn his rage and go on his Most Wanted list. I don't say this to scare you—but you need to be aware. You'll need to gain certain disciplines and be alert to his tactics that pressure you to quit. After all, our Enemy is on the prowl, a “roaring lion” looking for a quick meal, according to the apostle Peter.

While writing *Fight*, I got familiar with that lion's putrid breath. The Devil prowled and growled over my relationships, my work, my travel plans, and my writing schedule. He tried to intimidate me with bizarre events and evil presences, and even planted horrible accusations in my mind the night before a speaking engagement.

Jesus nailed it when He said that Satan's game is “to steal and kill and destroy” (John 10:10). When you love, follow, and obey Jesus, you are always in the sights of the Devil's rifle scope. And when you start learning more about taking the battle to him, his eye will be on you, his finger on the trigger. So watch and be ready, God's man!

Jesus came to earth “to destroy the devil’s work” (1 John 3:8), and I made that my mission as well in this book and workbook—to share my gut about making war on evil.

If you’ll dedicate yourself to finding out what’s required to be an effective warrior for Christ and in using your weapons well, your life will not be in danger. But fail to believe in and understand the deeper spiritual conflict we’re all in, and you will most certainly die on the battlefield. The kingdom tasks God intended for you will fall to another.

If you can avoid it, don’t attempt to study this workbook alone. I strongly recommend that you find at least one like-minded soldier who will walk through this material with you. In the body of Christ, there’s definitely strength in numbers. As the battle rages, your brothers can lay down some covering fire for you. Find a buddy—better yet, start or join a Fight small group. That’s the best way to ensure you’ll have the support and commitment this is going to take.

So if you’re good with all that, welcome to the fight, brother! I’m counting on you. We need each other. And in Jesus’ strength and the power of His name, we will prevail!

The Fight Experience

WELCOME TO AN EIGHT-WEEK JOURNEY INTO FIGHT! HERE'S HOW THE STUDY WORKS:

INTRODUCTION // Each session begins with a narrative overview of the weekly topic. You will want to read this to set the stage for your personal study and to establish context for your time with the group.

PERSONAL STUDY // If you want to grow in faith and find out what it means to risk your life for the cause of Christ, you will enjoy unpacking this challenging material and applying it to your own journey as God's man. Each session in this workbook contains four or five short personal study sections for you to read and journal about during the week leading up to your group meeting. You may choose to do one per day or settle in for a Saturday morning retreat. The pencil icons will guide you to study questions and remind you to journal in the side column. You'll notice that the last personal study section is always identified as Fight Drill. Fight Drill includes the key Scripture you'll want to memorize that week as well as space to both reflect upon and respond to the session's themes.

MAN TO MAN // This section is especially for you and an accountability partner. Taking part in this opportunity for accountability is probably the best way to benefit from this study. Each week, both you and your partner will do your personal study of the session material. Then you will get together to discuss the content and work as a team on some one-on-one questions and exercises. This accountability process is further explained on pages 12-13 as it is so important to your iron-sharpening-iron journey toward becoming a God's man.

GROUP STUDY // Men appreciate getting together to hear each other's opinions, share some laughs, study the Word, encourage one another, and pray. Each week, your small-group time will begin with a review to get everyone on the same page. Next, you'll watch a video message from Kenny Luck and interact with questions for group discussion. (Discussion will be best if everyone has completed the personal study.) You'll wrap each meeting up by going over ways to get ready for next week and praying together.

ADDITIONAL ENCOURAGEMENT

This book includes ample space for you to write your answers, comments, and questions. A Notes page follows the end of each session. This is where you can write any ideas, conclusions, challenges, and personal insights that you found meaningful that week.

No matter how you use this workbook, you will have abundant opportunities to go deeper in your faith and realize the rewards of becoming a risk taker for God. However, you will experience the maximum results if you participate in every element: personal study, man-to-man time, and group study.

This study is designed to cover an eight-week time frame. However, if it takes you longer to complete the study personally or as a small group, take all the time you need. It is not unusual for a group to spend two or three meetings completing one lesson. Always go for depth over distance.

One last thing: Before you begin each session, commit your time to God. Ask the Holy Spirit to illumine your mind, guide your heart, and energize your spirit as you read each section and answer each question. Above all, adapt this study so that it truly works for you. This is your invitation to know God better, your opportunity to explore what a more passionate and battle-scarred devotion to God means.

Man to Man

SINCE I WANT YOU TO START NOW GETTING INVOLVED IN A HEALTHY ACCOUNTABILITY RELATIONSHIP WITH AT LEAST ONE OTHER MAN, HERE I WILL DESCRIBE THE ELEMENTS OF SUCH A RELATIONSHIP.

SPACE INVASION. What does aggressive accountability (what I describe as space invasion) look like? When I have been placed by God in community with another man for the purposes of spiritual growth and have his permission and willingness to be accountable, I need to emphasize the same things Paul did with every man: “We proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man complete in Christ. For this purpose also I labor, striving according to His power, which mightily works within me” (Colossians 1:28-29, NASB).

LET’S LOOK AT EACH OF THESE ELEMENTS IN ORDER:

PROCLAMATION. Space invasion is an outreach to another man. It is evangelistic in the sense that we are reaching out to another brother in Jesus’ name and for His sake, not our own. More simply, Christ is front and center in the accountability relationship. The filter through which advice is given, problems are resolved, and issues are settled is Jesus Christ. Above all, the relationship expresses a commitment to Him and His will. “Whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him” (Colossians 3:17).

ADMONITION. Space invasion is filled with gentle and firm warnings against evil. Notice I didn’t say slow warnings. When there is a moral, sexual, relational, financial, or spiritual temptation, we come out strongly based on God’s Word. We don’t have to be loud; God’s Word will do the piercing and the cutting to the heart of a man. We are on patrol and watching the bushes for Enemy movement from within and without. We do spiritual warfare together.

EDUCATION. Space invasion is all about learning spiritually from another man or “teaching every man in all wisdom.” Each person has his unique strengths and weaknesses, and we mutually offer and receive those in order to be stronger God’s men. Jesus stated very clearly that God’s man is to be about the business of “teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you” (Matthew 28:20) for as long as we have got a pulse. What we receive from God spiritually (insight, wisdom, spiritual gifts) we are to give away to other men.

PRESENTATION. Space invasion is all about pushing a man to live out his values. In a sense, Paul says that he puts his spiritual investments (other men) on display for people to see. He says that proclamation, admonition, and education are for a distinct purpose: “so that we may present every man.” The guys close to him are proudly displayed men of character. Each reflects the time, effort, and personal training he has invested. That’s why space invaders—godly guys who love the Lord and you so much that they just won’t pull punches—are so important. They’re the men who push hard on the issue of spiritual integrity and being undivided about what we say and what we do. When you’re a space invader, your men are walking billboards of your efforts. You will not let them fail on your watch if you can help it.

COMPLETION. Space invasion is about canvassing every domain of a man’s relationship with God and with people. The end game is full maturity—completeness in Christ. We want our accountability partner to be mature, lacking nothing in his moral, marital, spiritual, and family life. We seek the full development of God’s purposes by watching his connection to other men (fellowship). We ask about his time spent with Jesus through prayer, confession, and Scripture intake (discipleship). We discern his heart for and love for Jesus (worship). We encourage him to continue to develop and use his spiritual gifts to minister to other believers (service). We make sure he is seeking out opportunities to tell someone else what Christ has done in his life (evangelism).

ARE YOU WILLING TO PICK A FIGHT WITH EVIL?

A SPIRITUAL BATTLE RAGES AROUND YOU EVERY DAY. SPIRITUAL WARFARE IS REAL—AND SO IS THE DANGER. ARE YOU READY TO FACE THE ENEMY? THE CALL HAS BEEN ISSUED. THE DECISION IS YOURS. THE TIME TO FIGHT IS NOW!

FIGHT is for men ready to go to the next level in their faith, ready to step into the spiritual battle that threatens us all, and ready to join with a band of brothers to overcome the Enemy and claim the victory that Christ has already given us.

GO AHEAD. Stand up. Suit up for the ultimate fight. Get ready to march. And lay down an assault upon the Enemy that he will never forget!

God's man
series

GET STRONG

A **GET STRONG** resource from the **GET IN. GET HEALTHY. GET STRONG. GET GOING.**

LifeWay Men Strategy. Visit LifeWay.com/Men for more information.



KENNY LUCK is president and founder of Every Man Ministries and co-author of the bestselling *Every Man, God's Man*. Kenny is also the men's pastor at Saddleback Church in Lake Forest, CA. Learn more about Kenny and the ministry at everymanministries.com.

FIGHT WORKBOOK:

SHOWS how to have a rich spiritual experience by applying easy-to-use, interactive, and practical ideas

CLEARLY lays out steps for attaining an authentic, balanced Christian life

ENCOURAGES accountability to establish a pattern for spiritual victory

SUPPORTS—when used with the *FIGHT* Leader Kit—a dynamic eight-session video-driven group experience

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