

How To Spot Demons in Friends and Family — The Signs No One Talks About

By System Import | Sermon | March 13, 2026

How To Spot Demons in Friends and Family — The Signs No One Talks About

We live in a culture that loves to label everything psychologically. We call it "narcissism," "borderline personality," "trauma response," or "toxic behavior." And while these psychological terms have their place, the Bible warns us that we are not merely dealing with flesh and blood. We are living in a spiritual war zone. Sometimes, the person sitting across from you at the dinner table—the person you have known for years—is not just "difficult" or "moody." They are operating under the influence of a dark spiritual power.

The Apostle Paul warned us in Ephesians 6:12: *"For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against... the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms."*

This is the hardest pill for a Christian to swallow: that a friend, a family member, or a spouse can become a portal for demonic activity. We want to believe the best in people. We want to believe that if we just love them enough, they will change. But Jesus warned us to be "wise as serpents." Naivety is not a fruit of the Spirit; discernment is.

There is a specific signature to the demonic. It goes beyond human frailty. It is colder, darker, and more calculated than simple sin.

Today, we are going to walk through the 7 Biblical Signs that the person in your life is not just struggling with a bad personality, but is being used as an instrument of darkness. We are going to sharpen your discernment so you can stop fighting the person and start recognizing the spirit.

Number 1: The Allergy to the Anointing — The "Legion" Reaction

The first and most reliable sign is not how they treat **you**, but how they treat **Him**.

A normal sinner might be indifferent to God. They might say, "Church isn't for me." But a person under demonic influence often has a visceral, almost allergic reaction to the true presence of Jesus Christ.

In Mark 5, when the man possessed by Legion saw Jesus, he didn't just ignore Him. He screamed. He fell down. He cried out, *"What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? In God's name don't torture me!"*

The demons were terrified of the Holiness of Jesus.

Watch what happens when you bring up the name of Jesus, or when you play worship music, or when you start to pray.

* Do they suddenly become angry for no reason?

How To Spot Demons in Friends and Family — The Signs No One Talks About

By System Import | Sermon | March 13, 2026

- * Do they mock you with a strange intensity?
- * Do they have to leave the room because they "can't stand" the atmosphere?

If you notice that the person becomes agitated specifically when the Holy Spirit is moving, take note. Darkness cannot coexist peacefully with Light. The spirit inside them is uncomfortable because the Spirit inside you is burning. They aren't rejecting you; they are reacting to the Christ in you.

Number 2: The Architect of Chaos — Peace is Their Enemy

God is a God of order and peace (1 Corinthians 14:33). Satan is the author of confusion. Therefore, a person influenced by the demonic functions as an Agent of Chaos. Have you ever noticed that with some family members, peace is impossible?

- * If the dinner is going well, they drop a verbal bomb to start a fight.
- * If the family is reconciled, they dig up an old grudge to cause division.
- * They manufacture crises out of thin air.

Why? Because demons feed on turbulence. They need the noise of arguments and the fog of confusion to operate. They cannot work in the light of clarity.

James 3:16 says, **"For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice."**

If someone in your life acts like a tornado—leaving a trail of emotional debris everywhere they go, never taking responsibility, and seemingly addicted to drama—you are dealing with a spiritual force. A difficult person wants to be heard; a demonic influence wants the peace to be destroyed.

Number 3: The Seared Conscience — The Predatory Gaze

Human beings, even very broken ones, usually have a conscience. If they hurt you, they feel a pang of guilt. They might get defensive, but deep down, they know they messed up.

But 1 Timothy 4:2 speaks of those whose **"consciences have been seared as with a hot iron."** This means the nerve endings of their morality have been burned off.

The most chilling sign of demonic influence is The Absence of Remorse.

You can cry in front of them, you can explain how much they hurt you, and they will look at you with a "dead" stare. Sometimes, they will even smile.

This is the "Predatory Gaze." It is the look of a being that views you as food, not as family.

They can lie, cheat, slander, and destroy without losing a minute of sleep.

If you are waiting for an apology from this person, stop waiting. You cannot get blood from a stone,

How To Spot Demons in Friends and Family — The Signs No One Talks About

By System Import | Sermon | March 13, 2026

and you cannot get empathy from a spirit of evil. They do not feel bad because, in their twisted reality, they are justified. This coldness is not natural; it is spiritual.

Number 4: The Spirit of Accusation — The Master of Projection

One of Satan's primary titles is **Diabolos**, which literally means "The Slanderer" or "The Accuser." In Revelation 12:10, he is called *"the accuser of our brothers and sisters."*

Therefore, a person operating under this spirit will be a master of Projection.

Projection is a demonic slight-of-hand where they accuse **you** of doing exactly what **they** are doing.

- * If they are lying, they will accuse you of being a liar.
- * If they are unfaithful, they will accuse you of cheating.
- * If they are full of hate, they will accuse you of being hateful.

This tactic is designed to put you on the defensive. Instead of dealing with their sin, you spend all your energy trying to prove your innocence.

This was the tactic of Potiphar's wife against Joseph. She was the one full of lust, but she accused Joseph of attacking her.

If you feel like you are constantly on trial with this person, and the charges are always false, recognize the source. You are wrestling with the Accuser. The intense focus on **your** imaginary flaws is a smokescreen to hide **their** real demons.

Number 5: The Assassin of Destiny — Targeting Your Potential

A difficult person might annoy you or hurt your feelings by accident. But a demonic influence has a strategic agenda: They want to abort your destiny.

Watch the timing of their attacks.

- * Do they start a massive fight right before you have a big job interview?
- * Do they try to discourage you right when you are starting a new ministry?
- * Do they sabotage your education or your success?

This is the "Herod Spirit." King Herod tried to kill Jesus while He was still a baby because he feared the King He would become.

The enemy sees the anointing on your life, often more clearly than you do. He sends people into your life not just to annoy you, but to derail you. They are "Dream Killers." They will mock your ambitions, belittle your gifts, and try to convince you that you are nothing.

How To Spot Demons in Friends and Family — The Signs No One Talks About

By System Import | Sermon | March 13, 2026

If someone is systematically trying to keep you small, silent, and powerless, they are an agent of containment. They are assigned to keep your seed from growing.

Number 6: The Isolationist — Cutting the Sheep from the Herd

In the animal kingdom, a predator never attacks the herd. It tries to separate one sheep from the flock. Once the sheep is isolated, it is defenseless.

A person with a demonic agenda will work tirelessly to isolate you.

- * They will tell you that your family doesn't love you.
- * They will tell you that your church is judging you.
- * They will tell you that your friends are fake.
- * They will try to make themselves the *only* voice in your ear.

This is a form of witchcraft known as control. By cutting off your support systems, they make you dependent on them for reality. They want to be your god.

If you notice that since this person entered your life, you have lost touch with your friends, your family, and your spiritual community, wake up. You are being corralled for the kill. God connects us; the enemy isolates us.

Number 7: The Energy Vampire — The Spiritual Drain

Finally, there is a physical and spiritual symptom that you cannot ignore: Exhaustion.

Jesus said in Luke 8:46, *"I know that power has gone out from me,"* when the woman touched Him. Relationships involve a transfer of power.

When you spend time with a godly person, you feel refreshed, challenged, or encouraged.

But when you spend time with a person under demonic influence, you feel drained. You feel a heavy fog. You might even get physical headaches or nausea in their presence.

This is because they are a spiritual black hole. They feed on your light. They provoke emotional reactions from you—tears, anger, fear—because that negative energy sustains them.

If you dread seeing them, if you feel like you need a nap after a 10-minute conversation, listen to your body. Your spirit is discerning what your mind is trying to deny. You are in the presence of something that is stealing your life force.

Conclusion

So, what is the Christian response? If you identify these signs in a spouse, a parent, or a "friend," what do you do?

How To Spot Demons in Friends and Family — The Signs No One Talks About

By System Import | Sermon | March 13, 2026

1. Stop Casting Pearls: Jesus said, *"Do not give dogs what is sacred; do not throw your pearls to pigs"* (Matthew 7:6). Stop trying to explain your heart to them. Stop trying to convince them to be good. They cannot hear you.
2. Bind and Loose: Your battle is not against flesh and blood. You cannot argue the demon out of them. Fight in the Spirit. Bind the spirit of confusion and loose the peace of God over your own mind.
3. Establish Boundaries: You are called to love everyone; you are not called to trust everyone. Jesus loved the Pharisees, but He didn't hang out with them. He kept His distance. Boundaries are not unchristian; they are essential for survival.
4. Pray from a Distance: Pray that God would break the chains holding them, but realize that **you** might not be the one called to set them free. Sometimes, you are the target, not the deliverer.

Do not be afraid. "He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world" (1 John 4:4). But be wise. Recognize the signs. Stop engaging with the demon and start engaging with God. Guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life.

"Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." (James 4:7)