This book is a series of letters from a demon to his nephew, Wormwood, on the correct ways to tempt humans. It's a book about the way we think and the things that influence us – one of the ideas our course revolves around. It’s not a long book, but it can be a bit confusing. Here are some tips to help you through your reading:

1) Instead of really telling a fluid story, each chapter deals with a different subject. You may need to read a chapter twice to fully understand what is being said. I’ve read the book several times, and each time I pick up something new.

2) Be an active reader. Keep a pen or pencil with you as you read or listen. One of the subjects of the book is the importance of language. When you read something that addresses that subject, underline it. If you see a connection between the book and something else in life, make a note of it. If you cannot write in your book, use post-it notes to flag important parts. Use a dictionary to define words that you do not know or understand.

3) I’ve enclosed a reading/study guide to help you as you read. The questions to help you know what to expect and look for while you are reading. Notice that it does not cover every chapter.

*The Screwtape Letters*
C. S. Lewis

Identify the following characters:

- Screwtape –
- Wormwood –
- Patient –
- The Enemy –
- Our Father Below –

Ch. 1

1. What kind of activities does Wormwood try to monitor?

2. What is their “best ally” in keeping his from the Church?
3. Why?

4. Why do they want to avoid true/untrue arguments?

5. Define atheist.

6. Retell the story of Screwtape’s atheist.

7. What does Wormwood think their job is?

8. What is their real job?

9. What is the subject of this chapter? (one or two words)

10. What is the purpose? (what big idea or ideas does Lewis want to get across in statement form)

Ch. 2 & 3

11. What bad thing has happened to the patient?

12. What will happen to Wormwood as a result?

13. What church can wormwood and Screwtape see that we cannot?

14. What do humans see as the church?

15. Screwtape tells Wormwood to keep humans ____________________________.

16. Humans who are dependant on emotion are _______________________ to tempt.

17. How should Wormwood use the patient’s mother to his advantage?

18. What methods does Screwtape recommend to build up annoyance between the patient and his mother?
   1. ____________________________
   2. ____________________________
19. “Keep his mind off the most elementary duties by directing it to the most advanced and spiritual ones.” What elementary duties is Screwtape referring to?

20. What is the subject of this chapter? (one or two words)

21. What is the purpose? (what big idea or ideas does Lewis want to get across in statement form)

Ch 4 & 5

22. When is a demon's best work done?

23. How does Screwtape recommend Wormwood interfere with prayer?

24. Why is Wormwood “delirious with joy”?

25. How is war good for demons?

26. How is war bad for demons?

27. Why is it good for demons that humans don’t think they are going to die?

28. What is the subject of this chapter? (one or two words)

29. What is the purpose? (what big idea or ideas does Lewis want to get across in statement form)

Ch 6 & 7

30. Why is the possibility the patient might be drafted to the war a good thing?

31. Why is hating a German (an imaginary scapegoat) not such a great thing for demons?

32. Draw a picture of the “man” as described by Screwtape.
33. What should be kept out of the “will” circle?

34. Why should virtues be kept in the “fantasy” circle?

35. Why is it good to keep humans from know that demons really exist?

36. What is the good that comes from humans knowing that demons really exist?

37. What is the subject of this chapter? (one or two words)

38. What is the purpose? (what big idea or ideas does Lewis want to get across in statement form)

Ch 8 & 9
39. Draw and label a picture of the “law of undulation.”

40. What does this mean in practical terms for human existence?

41. What does “the enemy” want from humans?

42. What do demons want from humans?

43. When is their cause in the most danger?

44. Why do troughs provide excellent opportunities for temptations?

45. Who created pleasures?

46. What can demons do with pleasures?

47. What is the best way to exploit a trough?

48. How should someone optimistic be handled?

49. How should someone pessimistic be handled?

50. How can they directly attack his faith during the trough?
51. What is the subject of this chapter? (one or two words)

52. What is the purpose? (what big idea or ideas does Lewis want to get across in statement form)

Ch 10 & 11

53. Describe the patient's new friends.

54. Why is this good?

55. What is “Puritanism”?

56. Why is that word a triumph for demons?

57. List and describe the four divisions of laughter:
   1. 
   2. 
   3. 
   4. 

58. Why is flippancy the best laughter for demons?

59. What is the subject of this chapter? (one or two words)

60. What is the purpose? (what big idea or ideas does Lewis want to get across in statement form)

Ch 12 & 13

61. Why is it good that the patient is still a churchgoer?

62. Why do they need to be careful about letting the patient know about his real position?

63. To what does Screwtape compare the Enemy?

64. Why is an uneasy feeling good for demons?
65. Why are pleasures a “tiresome” way of tempting humans?

66. Why are the “small” steps important?

67. Explain the last sentence of Ch 12.

68. What bad thing has happened at the beginning of 13?

69. What mistake did Wormwood make?

70. Why is providing real pleasure a mistake?

71. Why should demons want people to like the “right” food, “important” books, etc.?

72. How can the demons hope to save the situation?

73. What is the subject of this chapter? (one or two words)

74. What is the purpose? (what big idea or ideas does Lewis want to get across in statement form)

Ch. 14, 17 & 18

75. What is it to be humble?

76. What do demons want you to think being humble should be?

77. Why is #62 good for demons?

78. What are the two types of self-love described?

79. What is gluttony?

80. How is the patient’s mother a glutton?
81. How does this create problems?

82. What two demands regarding sex does “the Enemy” make on humans?

83. What have they convinced humans is the only “respectable ground for marriage”?

84. What is the philosophy of hell?

85. How is the enemy’s policy different?

86. How does God describe a married couple? How does he not describe a married couple?

87. How can demons use “love” to their advantage?

88. What is the subject of this chapter? (one or two words)

89. What is the purpose? (what big idea or ideas does Lewis want to get across in statement form)

Ch 20 & 22

90. Define chastity.

91. How do they define “sexual taste”?

92. What has happened to the patient?

93. Why is this bad?

94. What has happened between Wormwood and Screwtape?

95. Why does Screwtape send Wormwood a booklet on the new “House of Corrections for Tempters”?

96. Describe the girl he is in love with.

97. In what arena is Screwtape referring?

98. What happens during Screwtape’s letter?
99. What is the subject of this chapter? (one or two words)

100. What is the purpose? (what big idea or ideas does Lewis want to get across in statement form)

Ch. 30, & 31

101. What was the patient's behavior during the first raid?

102. Where did Screwtape get this information?

103. What is the justice of Hell?

104. What has happened to Wormwood's patient?

105. How will Wormwood be punished?

106. How does Screwtape describe the patient's death?

107. Compare/contrast the way the patient and the demon see God?

108. How does Screwtape's closing reflect what will happen to Wormwood?

109. What is the subject of this chapter? (one or two words)

110. What is the purpose? (what big idea or ideas does Lewis want to get across in statement form)
Find (and write below) 5 statements from the book that you could easily write about or discuss.

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