

Session 2 Supplement

Imagine it is noon and you are sitting with a coworker in your company's lunchroom. This coworker has an important matter to discuss with you, and you've set aside some time so the two of you can focus on it. You are looking forward to getting the matter resolved.

Suddenly, from across the room, you hear your name being called. Your heart sinks. You recognize the voice. It's another coworker. One who likes to talk a lot and dominate conversations. You don't want to engage with this person at the moment, so you try to ignore it. Maybe the person will get the hint and walk away.

Nope. You hear the voice again, but this time a little louder and closer. You put on a forced smile as the intruder arrives at your table. The person stands there, grinning at you. You look up and say hello. You tip your head toward the other person already sitting with you. You mention the two of you have scheduled this time to discuss an important matter. You hope this will clue in the unwanted "guest" to move along and find another place in the lunchroom.

No such luck. Instead, the person starts talking about a project that he is working on, how unfair his boss is being, and what so-and-so did that made him mad. You quickly realize it's time to take a more direct approach. You reiterate that you and your coworker are discussing an important matter and politely ask to be left alone. But instead of departing, the intruder takes a seat next to you. "Really? I'd be happy to help. Tell me all about it."

Your enemy can be very much like this unwanted guest. He seeks to interrupt your time with the One who matters most. He wants to get a place at your table. He will try to weasel his way there and make you think he was invited. You have to know his tactics so you can resist him.