



DISCUSSION GUIDE

THIS WEEK: The Stand - Ephesians 6:10 - 20

GETTING STARTED

How do you prepare to go on a vacation?

Is there a checklist you go through or a supply list you need? How do you get your kids/spouse ready (or help them get themselves ready)?

QUICK REACTIONS

- How would you summarize/paraphrase the message in your own words?
- What point/idea resonated most with you? Why?
- Did you disagree with something said, or what do you think should have been added or expanded on?

QUESTIONS FROM THE MESSAGE

1. Are you more likely to see demonic activity around every corner or doubt the existence of the demonic altogether?
2. Why is it significant that Paul doesn't tell us to "beat back the enemy" but rather "to stand?" What does it mean "to stand?" How do we do it?
3. Steve talked about the 3-headed monster of evil that we are up against. What did this include? (*evil rulers and authorities in this world, our flesh, Satan and his demons*) Of these 3, which one do you seem to be less aware of in regard to their influence in your life?

EXPLORE THE PASSAGE [Ephesians 6:10-20]

Who are our real enemies? What does Paul tell us about them? (vs. 12)

What is the significance of the 4 different types of evil Paul mentions? (vs. 12)

What is the purpose of the armor of God? (vs. 11, 13)

How do we prepare for this battle? (vs. 11, 13)

What did Paul mean by the shoes fitted with the readiness of the Gospel of peace? (vs. 15, I Peter 3:15)

What weapon are we given that extinguishes the lies and attacks of Satan? (vs. 16)

Which piece of armor given is used as a weapon and not just defense? (vs. 17)

Why is prayer not given a piece of armor? (vs. 18)

QUESTIONS THAT HELP US UNDERSTAND THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE TEXT TO US?

1. Steve mentioned that the point of the armor of God was that it is forged and furnished by God Himself. He has given us everything we need to succeed in our battles! How does knowing this change your attitude in regard to the struggles you are up against?

2. Read I Peter 5:8. What are some ways we can be alert, pay attention, and aware of the enemies schemes?
3. Paul tells us that prayer needs to pervade all of our spiritual battles. Why is that?
4. One of the main reasons we need the armor of God is because we cannot handle the enemy on our own. We need to rely on Jesus to stand our ground. Why does God require us to depend on Him rather than to remain self-sufficient?

APPLICATION

- Can you identify any chinks in your armor? What do you need to do in order to become more fully equipped?
- What area in your life have you found yourself giving in to the enemies attacks? How can we pray for you?
- Too often, we see putting on the armor of God as individual. What are some ways you can help each other put on the armor of God and stand together in spiritual warfare?