

July 10-11, 2021

Title: The Church in the World, Pt. 9: "The Church and the Battle" – Ephesians 6:10-20

Big Idea: Do the Bible – stand firm, dress for battle, and attack!

What in the message stood out to you?

Read Ephesians 6:10-20. What questions do you have?

1. STAND FIRM!

Read Ephesians 6:10-13 again. What do you think it means to be strong in the Lord as opposed to relying on our own strength?

What are some of the spiritual battles you have faced in your life? What are some spiritual battles you are currently facing? What do you think is the right way and the wrong way to fight these battles?

Do you struggle to believe in Satan and demons? Why or why not?

Read 1 Peter 2:11. What does this verse suggest about the spiritual battles we face? What is being fought over?

Read 1 John 5:4. What is the essence of our victory? In what way does faith win the battles? How have you seen this in your own life?

2. DRESS FOR BATTLE!

Read Ephesians 6:14-17. Whose armor is this? What does this suggest about God's role in the battle?

Based on these verses, what is our role in the battle?

Every verb in this passage is a plural. What does this suggest about the need to fight together rather than alone? Why is this so important? What might it look like together to fight together alongside other believers?

The belt of truth likely means believing true doctrine with a true heart. Read Psalm 51:6. What do you think it means to have a true heart before the Lord?

The breastplate of righteousness is the Good News that God has given us His perfect and total righteousness through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. Has the devil ever tried to overwhelm you with guilt and shame? How does he do this? How does the breastplate of righteousness overcome this? How does knowing you are already righteous in Christ help grow and change?

The shoes of gospel readiness is the constant readiness to believe and proclaim the good news of Jesus in every circumstance of life. Read Isaiah 52:7. Is there an area of your life right now where it is difficult for you to believe and proclaim the good news that our God reigns? What would it look like to put on the shoes of gospel readiness in this area?

The shield of faith extinguishes all the devil's fiery darts by laying hold of God's promises in times of doubt and depression and laying hold of the power of God in times of temptation. What are the biggest areas of doubt or temptation in your life? What are some promises of God that can shield you?

The helmet of salvation is God's personal work in your life. It is your own story of God saving you and changing you. It is your personal testimony. What is one way that God has worked in your life to save you or change you?

The sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God, is our offensive weapon for hand to hand combat with the devil. It cuts through all of Satan's lies, exposes them for what they are and gives us power over them. Do you have a daily habit of reading and trusting God's word? Why or why not? How is trusting God's word like a sword that attacks the devil?

3. ATTACK!

God's promises and warnings are our weapons of warfare. How would you use the Word of God to attack anxiety and worry over money issues in your life? How would you use the Word of God to attack bitterness and unforgiveness in your life? How would you use the Word of God to attack lust and sexual immorality in your life?

The primary way to put on the armor of God, take up your sword and attack is found in Ephesians 6:18. What does it mean to pray in the Spirit? What is the role of God's word when it comes to praying in the Spirit?

It should be obvious that the Bible, the Word of God, is the key to all spiritual warfare. The battle is to believe. This means we should believe the Bible, pray the Bible and obey the Bible. But we can't do any of this if we don't read it.

Oneness & Witness Takeaway: DO THE BIBLE!

- Will you join our church-wide Bible reading plan as a way of putting on the armor of God?
- You can join by going to the website: DoTheBible.church and either downloading the paper version of the plan or joining one of the online versions of the plan through the YouVersion Bible app.

Close your time by sharing prayer requests and praying together. Do the Bible – stand firm, dress for battle and attack!