

¹⁰ A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. ¹² For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.

¹³ Therefore, put on every piece of God's armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm. ¹⁴ Stand your ground, putting on the belt of truth and the body armor of God's righteousness. ¹⁵ For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News so that you will be fully prepared. ¹⁶ In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows of the devil. ¹⁷ Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

¹⁸ Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.

Ephesians 6:10-18

Discussion/Journal Questions

Share a victory you have experienced recently (big or small).

Have two or three people read Ephesians 6:10-18 out loud slowly. After some time of reflection, ask each other what words, phrases, or ideas stand out to everyone. What questions come to mind as you meditate on this scripture?

On a scale of 1-10, how well do you know the Bible?

Read these four passages and reflect on what the Word of God is able to do.

- James 1:18
- 1 Peter 1:23
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-5
- Hebrews 4:13

In light of these verses, how does the Word of God enable us to resist the enemy?

How does the Word of God enable us to go on the offensive against the enemy?

In the sermon, Pastor Sam shared three things we must do with our sword: train (read), sharpen (study), and use (obey). Of these three, which comes easiest? Which is most difficult?

Read James 1:22-25. What happens if we read and study scripture but fail to obey it?

With your group, come up with a plan to increase your engagement with God's Word, and a plan to encourage one another to follow through.

Pray for one another in the spiritual battle you all face.