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## ***EPHESIANS 6:10-24***

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### **GETTING STARTED...**

What comes to mind when you hear the phrase, “spiritual warfare”? For many spiritual warfare is thought of in terms of movies and TV shows that have all manner of supernatural beasts or hauntings. However, the Bible describes spiritual warfare in a very different sense. Every Christian is called into a fight to keep hold of the gospel in their lives. Not to allow sin to push us away from our saviour. As Paul wraps up his letter to the Ephesian church he concludes by reminding them that the Christian life does involve this spiritual warfare, but that we are not on our own in the fight. We fight in the strength of God, praying always for his help and encouraging our brothers and sisters in the peace, grace, and love of Christ.

### **READ THE TEXT: EPHESIANS 6:10-24**

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<sup>10</sup> Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. <sup>11</sup> Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. <sup>12</sup> For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. <sup>13</sup> Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. <sup>14</sup> Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, <sup>15</sup> and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup> In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; <sup>17</sup> and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, <sup>18</sup> praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, <sup>19</sup> and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, <sup>20</sup> for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.

<sup>21</sup> So that you also may know how I am and what I am doing, Tychicus the beloved brother and faithful minister in the Lord will tell you

everything. <sup>22</sup> I have sent him to you for this very purpose, that you may know how we are, and that he may encourage your hearts.

<sup>23</sup> Peace be to the brothers, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>24</sup> Grace be with all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with love incorruptible.

## UNDERSTANDING THE WORD

1. Paul lists several parts of spiritual armour for the Christian, what are they? How should we understand each part working in our lives? Compare Isaiah 11:5, 59:17, and 1 Thess 5:8 with this passage, how does the variety show us a greater picture of God's protection in our lives?
2. How does the command to "stand" (vs 10, 11, 13, 14) and the command to "pray" (vs 18, 19, 20) work together in spiritual warfare? How does this help us understand our what we are to do in spiritual warfare?

## REFLECTING ON THE SERMON

3. What was the main point of the sermon?
4. What has God been impressing on your heart from the sermon?

## APPLYING THE POINT

5. How do we put this into practice?

*Agassiz/Harrison/Lake Errock* In what ways do you experience spiritual warfare...the battle of good vs. evil...in your daily life? Which of the various pieces of "the armor of God" have been particularly helpful to you in this spiritual battle? What have you learned about prayer that would help other believers to grow in their prayer life?

*Chilliwack* Why do you think Paul uses the imagery of a Roman soldier's armor to describe spiritual warfare? Furthermore, what piece(s) of God's armor do you tend to neglect the most? Why?"

*Promontory* How do you see spiritual warfare in your Christian life? How does the final victory of Christ help us fight? How much time do you spend in prayer? How should we encourage one another in our spiritual walks? How can you do that over the summer?

## PRAYING & SHARING

1. How can you share what you have learned with... another believer?  
An unbeliever?

2. Share and pray for one another in your life group. How can you specifically pray for and encourage one another in response to this text?



## How to Use this Guide

This guide is intended to help facilitate Central Life Groups as they meet to understand the Bible passage, discuss the sermon, and how to put it into practice in our lives. What is contained in this guide is not an exhaustive text analysis nor a full list of questions that can or should be asked during Life Group. This is simply a guide to help **start conversations that are centered on the Word of God.**

The Life Group Guide is separated into three main sections that are arranged with an intentional order: *Understanding the Word*, *Reflecting on the Sermon*, and *Applying the Point*. We want to first understand the Word of God, and then check that understanding by what has been preached, and then discuss how to put it into practice in our own lives. The order is intended to imitate the process of how the Word of God makes changes in our lives. Head, heart, hands, and all of it wrapped in prayer.

While the meaning of a text doesn't change, the way that we are called to apply it may look different from campus to campus, and even person to person. To reflect this distinction, you will see application questions from each campus in this guide.

Start with the question(s) from your campus and then look at others to see if they are helpful for your group. You may be surprised how similar or different they end up being and how the diversity brings a fuller understanding to how we can apply the Word of God.

Our goal is not that you answer every question in this guide, but that you are able to discuss the Word of God in a way **that helps everyone follow Jesus together!**

*"Great are the works of the LORD,  
studied by all who delight in them." - Psalm 111:2*