



THE GOOD FIGHT

THE GOOD FIGHT Part 2

“ARMOR UP”

Pastor Dave Patterson

7.15.18

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures referenced in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to facilitate a discussion.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together.

While the questions are important, remember your group’s goal is not to pound through the questions but to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships, so use the discussion questions as you see fit, but emphasize the relationships.

Key verses for series:

Ephesians 6:10-12

A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. Put on all of God’s armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies (schemes) of the devil. **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.

Get in the game! Operate in authority!

2 Timothy 2:3-4

You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of *this* life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier.

Revelation 3:21

Those who overcome will sit with me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat with my Father on his throne.

Romans 8:37

Yet , in all these things **we are more than conquerors** through him who loved us.

2 Corinthians 2:14

“thanks *be* to God who **always leads us in triumph** in Christ”

Revelation 12:11

“And **they overcame him** (*the evil one*) by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony”

4 Ways You Can Win

Ephesians 6:13

Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

1. TAKE YOUR PERSONAL STAND

PROS = To look forward / to take a stand facing toward / to resist

Ephesians 6:13b

“... when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand”

2 Samuel 23:12

“...but Shammah took his stand in the middle of the field and defended it and struck down the Philistines; and the LORD brought about a great victory”

2. LIVE A LIFE THAT IS CENTERED IN TRUTH

Ephesians 6:14

“Stand your ground, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist”

Ephesians 6:11 (AMP)

Put on the full armor of God [for His precepts are like the splendid armor of a heavily-armed soldier], so that you may be able to [successfully] stand up against all the schemes *and* the strategies *and* the deceits of the devil.

a. Be filled with the Word of God

John 17:17 (AMP)

“Sanctify them in the truth [set them apart for Your purposes,]; **Your word is truth.**

b. Stay planted in the local church

1 Timothy 3:15

This is the church of the living God, which is **the pillar and foundation of the truth.**

c. Live in community

2 Corinthians 2:11 (The Voice)

It's my duty to make sure that Satan does not win even a small victory over us, for we don't want to be naïve *and then fall prey* to his schemes.

3. WALK DAILY IN RIGHT STANDING WITH GOD

Ephesians 6:14

Stand your ground, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, **with the breastplate of righteousness in place,**

Ephesians 4:27 (AMP)

And do not give the devil an opportunity [to lead you into sin by holding a grudge, or nurturing anger, or harboring resentment, or cultivating bitterness].

4. LIFT THE NAME OF JESUS OVER THE BATTLE

TALK IT THROUGH

1. What's one thing worth "fighting for" to you? This may stir some passion, so keep it brief. 😊
2. How can we identify if what we're experiencing is a spiritual battle?
3. Read together 2 Samuel 23:11-12. What stands out to you about this story? What is your seemingly insignificant "bean field." How has God called you to stand your ground? How do you know you must stand and fight for this territory?
4. Read Ephesians 6:13-14. Paul says to "take up the full armor of God." How are you doing at getting fully dressed with the armor of God? Discuss the benefits of the belt of truth. Why is this piece first, and so vital? How can you know if you have the "belt of truth" buckled on?
5. Pastor Dave said, "Deception is the #1 strategy of the enemy," and defined it as a little bit of truth mixed with lies. Discuss why deception is such a deadly weapon and practical ways we can fight against it. Review the three subpoints Pastor Dave gave.
6. "Isolation is a breeding ground for deception." Who is helping you stay accountable to being centered in truth? Whom might you ask to prayerfully and honestly speak truth into your life?
7. The breastplate of righteousness is another piece of the armor of God, and carries the message of being in right standing with God: positionally as a son/daughter, and also relationally as we walk daily with Him. What practical ways can we "keep short account of sin"? What would it look like to stay in right relationship with one another?
8. Take some time in your group to identify your personal "beachfronts" and together lift up the name of Jesus in victory over these areas. Take some time to claim the Lord's Banner (Jehovah Nissi) over your battlefields.