



THE GOOD FIGHT

The Good Fight – Part 1
Fight the Good Fight of Faith
July 8, 2018
Pastor Joseph Zwanziger

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.

Eph. 6:10-12 (NIV)

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. ¹² **For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.**

Key Verse:

1 Tim 6:12 (NIV)

“Fight the good fight of the faith”

1. Show up to the fight

- **1 Peter 5:8 (NLT)**

“**Stay alert!** Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour.”

- **John 10:10 (NKJV)**

“The thief does not come except **to steal, and to kill, and to destroy**”

2. Fight in the air, and THEN on the ground

3. It's a Good Fight because WE WIN!

- **2 Kings 6:14-17 (NKJV)**

“Therefore he sent horses and chariots and a great army there, and they came by night and surrounded the city. ¹⁵ And when the servant of the man of God arose early and went out, there was an army, surrounding the city with horses and chariots. And his servant said to him, “Alas, my master! What shall we do?”

¹⁶ So he answered, “Do not fear, for those who *are* with us *are* more than those who *are* with them.” ¹⁷ **And Elisha prayed, and said, “Lord, I pray, open his eyes that he may see.”** Then the Lord opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.”

We are guaranteed, through Jesus, to win every spiritual battle!

- **1 John 4:4 (NKJV)**

“He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world”

- **Phil 2:9-10 (NKJV)**

“Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth.”

- **Col. 2:15 (NIV)**

“And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.”

- **John 16:33 (NIV)**

“I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. **But take heart! I have overcome the world.**”

**You have VICTORY in EVERY spiritual battle,
through Jesus Christ!**

- **Eph. 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.”

TALK IT THROUGH

1. Are you naturally more of a fighter or a peacemaker? Share some examples.
2. Read together Ephesians 6:10-12 and 1 Timothy 6:12. What do we learn from these verses and what are we instructed to do? Who are we fighting?
3. Read together 1 Peter 5:8 and John 10:10. What is the enemy's goal? What is Jesus' provision? Is the reality of spiritual warfare – being in a battle against an unseen force – a new understanding or well known for you?
4. Pastor Joseph shared this quote: “The root of the war is unseen, but the effects of the war are clearly seen and felt.” What is the fight you are facing where you need a new, or proven, weapon?
5. One strategy of war is to “Fight in the air and then on the ground.” Discuss what this means. What are some practical ways to take our fight to the air, first? How do we then fight on the ground? Is one of those approaches harder for you than the other? How can you fight your current battle better in the air and/or on the ground?
6. It's a good fight because we know Jesus has already won the victory. Read together 2 Kings 6:14-17. Take time as a group to declare and speak out your victories – the ones you've seen and those for which you're still contending. Join one another, strengthen one another, pray for one another in the fight.
7. What is one strategic step you can take this week to “fight the good fight of faith”?