

Reflection and Discussion

Sermon Series Rooted
Sermon Title Preparing for life's battles
Bible Texts Ephesians 6:10-18
Date May 19, 2024

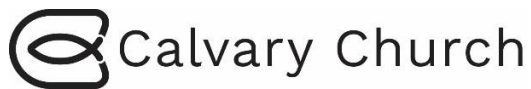
CONNECT – Getting to know one another

- Question 1: How do you respond to the premise that life is a battle?
- Question 2: In any battle, what is the purpose of armor?

EQUIP – Understanding God's word

Before going further, take some time to read Ephesians 6:10-18. Remember that these questions are intended to stimulate reflection and discussion, not to limit you in any way.

- Question 3: Where does our strength and power come from? Why do we need strength?
- Question 4: According to Ephesians 6:12, who is—and who is not—our enemy? How does this affect your thinking about other people whose views or lifestyle feel threatening to you?
- Question 5: Describe in your own words what verse 12 means to you. How do you see it playing out in what you observe and experience?
- Question 6: How does Peter describe our enemy in I Peter 5:8? Why is it important to be “sober-minded” about such an enemy?
- Question 7: When Satan was attacking Peter, how did Jesus pray for him? What was the attack? (Luke 22:31-32)
- Question 8: In Revelation 12:10-11, how did the saints overcome Satan? What did their victory look like?
- Question 9: Why do we need the full armor of God (v 13)? What is that “day of evil”?
- Question 10: Reflect for a moment on how each piece of armor can help you deflect the devil's plans (14-17). Which of these pieces of armor do you feel would be your strongest and why? Which one do you feel needs some significant work to strengthen in your life?
- Question 11: The first two are “truth” and “righteousness” (v 14). How do we put on those pieces of armor?
- Question 12: Part of our armor is the “readiness for the gospel of peace” (v 15). Why is it important to remember that our struggle is not against flesh and blood? What happens to the “gospel of peace” when we start viewing people as the enemy?
- Question 13: What do the words “readiness for the gospel of peace” tell us about our mission? How do we make ourselves “ready” for this?
- Question 14: How is faith a shield for us against the flaming missiles of the evil one?



Question 15: What fiery darts does Satan throw at you?

Question 16: Salvation, the word of God, and prayer are the last three that Paul mentions (17-18). Why do you think he concludes with these three?

Question 17: When Paul challenges us to pray in the Spirit, he does not include a battle metaphor. What part does prayer play in “being strong in the Lord”?

Question 18: What action are we responsible for concerning the armor of God (v 11)?

DISCIPLESHIP – *Becoming and doing*

Question 19: Ponder for a moment a time when you have felt weak and open to significant temptation. How did you overcome it?

Or perhaps you succumbed to it. How did you deal with that? What did you learn, and which piece of armor had you forgotten to put on?

Question 20: If we get mixed up about who our spiritual enemy is, how can this affect our ability to stay on God’s mission for us in this world?

Question 21: Who are the real enemies in your battle?

Question 22: What must we do to prepare for the “day of evil” and to be able to stand?