

Sermon Notes

"Know Your Adversary"

Ephesians 6:10-13

April 14, 2024

4. Discuss how you can tend to rely on your own strength rather than being strong "in the strength of his might."

5. What clues do you find in this passage to the nature of our adversary? Consider other clues in Ephesians (1:21; 2:1-3; 3:10) and Colossians (1:13, 16; 2:14-15).

6. Who is the devil, and what will be his end? Consider: Genesis 3:13-15; John 8:44; 1 Tim. 5:14-15; 2 Tim. 2:26; 1 Peter 5:8; Revelation 20:10.

7. What are these spiritual forces of evil trying to do? Read Job 1:6-12; Matthew 4:8-11; Mark 4:14-15; Revelation 12:9-12; 13:5-8.

8. Are you consciously anticipating and preparing for spiritual warfare? If not, why do you think that is? If so, what does your preparation look like presently? Is there anything in your preparations that need to change?

Let's Pray

Growth Group Homework

For the week of 04-14-2024

Adapted from Karen Hinkley, ed., Life Change Series: Ephesians, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 1985, pp. 107-108; Keri Folmar, Grace: A Bible Study on Ephesians for Women, Cruciform Press, Minneapolis, MN, 2015, pp. 137-140; James Galvin, ed., et al., New Testament Lesson Maker, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 1992, pp. 272-3; Lyman Coleman, et.al., eds., Serendipity New Testament for Groups, Serendipity House, Littleton, CO, 1986, p. 371.

Getting Started:

1. How do you protect your home from danger?

Digging Deeper:

Read Ephesians 6:10-20.

2. In conclusion, what does Paul exhort the Ephesian Christians to do? Unpack the significance of these phrases:

Put on ... take up

the whole armor

of God

in the Lord ... in the strength of his might

stand against ... withstand ... stand firm

3. The verb behind "be strong" (6:10) is passive in voice, meaning this action is performed upon you by someone else, not by yourself. It might be rendered "be strengthened," "be enabled," "be empowered." Consider how this fits together with Paul's other comments about power in this letter (1:18-19; 3:7, 16, 20-21) and the ministry of the Spirit (3:16; 5:18). Where does the strength originate? What difference does this make?