

Heaven on Earth pt. 13 – The Final Destination

Ephesians 6:10-18

Message Overview:

Ephesians 6 is a message that Paul gives the Ephesians to wear the full armor of God, every piece. Living in the shadow of the coliseum games, the Ephesians understood the context was fighting for life or death. In his final instructions to the Ephesian church Paul is reminding us to not duck or run away but to stand firm and fight the good fight. *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. (Ephesians 6:12)* No matter what happens, no matter how bad it looks, God's strength will get us through to our final destination – being people of the Spirit.

Talk it Over:

1. Read Ephesians 6:10-17. Paul emphasizes the importance of having each piece of the armor of God equipped. How are you evaluating yourself to make sure that you have equipped the full armor of God?
2. In verse 12 Paul warns the church against a misguided fight. He makes it clear that our fight is not with other people no matter how bad they may seem, our fight is against spiritual forces of evil. Why do we sometimes make the mistake of fighting people instead of fighting against the spiritual forces of evil that are behind it?
3. Jesus desires to create a community of love and light that has influence in our community and culture. Jesus wants us to stand strong, and fight the good fight. How are you standing strong, and fighting the good fight?
4. Pastor Lane quoted Timothy Gombis stating: "Our warfare is not against others in our culture. Our warfare is to resist being an unholy community....(we need to) embody God's restoration of the world, anticipating the day when God makes all things new." How are you working to become a holy community?