

Pastor Ed Kemp

MESSAGE NOTES

Sunday, January 3

Introduction		
Ephes	ians	6:10-20

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty
power. <u>Put on</u> the full armor of God, so that
you can take your stand against the devil's
schemes. 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. Therefore <u>put on</u> 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. <u>Stand firm</u>
then, with the belt of truth buckled around your
waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in
place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness
that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition
to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which
you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the
evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the
sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. And
pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds
of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be
alert and always keep on praying for all the
Lord's people. Pray also for me, that whenever
I speak, words may be given me so that I will
fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel,
for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray
that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

WHO IS THE ENEMY?

Vs. 12, For our struggle is...against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

WHAT IS THE GOAL IN WARFARE?

Vs. 10 & 11, ...be strong in the Lord... Vs. 11, 13 & 14, Stand firm...

WHAT IS THE NEED IN WARFARE?

VS. 11, ...the devil's schemes. **μεθωδιασ** =strategy, method

WHAT ARE THE RESOURCES IN WARFARE? vs.11-17...the full armor of God, vs. 11 & 13, Put on...

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VS. 10, Be strong in the Lord VS. 18,pray in the Spirit=Continually Ask!	notes		
So What?! Standing Firm means you've dressed for battle and now ask the commander for wisdom while in the battle.			
How should you ask?			
Expansively – all prayer and petition, vs. 18a Conscientiously - all times, vs. 18b Persistently – all perseverance, vs. 18c Inclusively – all saints, vs. 18d			
What should you ask? Boldness – clearly with fearless freedom of speech			
GROUP DISCUSSION ————————————————————————————————————			

Prayer Requests:

Group Discussion: Recount, without colorful language, the worst attitude you ever saw displayed in public by a total stranger!

Read aloud: Ephesians 6

OBSERVATION: What does it say?

WHO IS THE LEVIDED IN WADDADES

Focus on 6:10-20, Circle repeated words. Notice especially the word stand in vs. 10-20. What are we going to stand against (vs. 12)? What kinds of actions, activities, attitudes do you think "spiritual forces of evil," present?

INTERPRETATION: What does it mean?

Stand is a metaphor for success. What does success in standing look like when you're faced with "spiritual forces of evil?" Dressing in the full armor of God is a metaphor for correct Christian living and attitudes. What do each piece of armor represent? What would you say is the corresponding evil action/attitude that requires each piece of armor? Such as: Feet shod with the Gospel of peace means that Satan is going to tempt/confront me with...?

CORRELATION: Other Scripture that helps my understanding. Read Matthew 4:1-17, What are Satan's 3 temptations of Jesus and how does Jesus answer each one?

APPLICATION: So what? What is one thing that has changed in your life because of this passage?

Family Time: Talk with your kids about Eph. 6:15. Roman soldiers shoes had cleats in them so they could push the enemy back. Paul says the way I push back on enemies is with peace. If you have an old pair of kids shoes, drive some nails through them and go in the backyard and let your kids push you back. Take off the shoes and their feet will slide on the wet grass because they've lost the traction. Talk to them about how truth is important because when someone accuses us of something that's not true we can confront them with truth.