

THE THEME

This is How We Fight Our Battles: From Victory!

MEMORY VERSE

"... in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us." - Romans 8:37

CHALLENGE VERSE

"... be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might."

- Ephesians 6:10

MAY 7 - LIFE APPLICATION

We fight our battles when we STAND in faith!

Note to Parents:

Our current topic is **"This is How We Fight our Battles."** This week, we learned to fight our battles by **standing in faith.** Turn to **Ephesians 6:10-13** in your Bible for reference. If you did not go to church on Sunday, you can listen to the sermon online before discussing: <u>www.momentsofhopechurch.org/messages</u>

- 1. REVIEW: We all have battles in our lives, different kinds of battles, and right now we are learning how we fight our battles:
 - We have to fight **from victory**, knowing the battle is already won because God is on our side.
 - We fight with **song** and praise so powerful to worship together!
 - We fight our battles **surrounded** by Jesus, an angel army, and a host of witnesses who went to heaven before us. They are FOR us, encouraging us, cheering us on.
 - We fight our battles with **surrender**, giving it all to God and trusting Him.
- 2. This week, we will learn that we can fight our battles when we stand in faith. Think about it. Even though God wants us to surrender all to Him, does that mean we don't have to do anything after that? (Discuss.) In Ephesians 6, Paul tells us to STAND ... to be brave/courageous/bold for the Lord ...v ictors and not victims.
- 3. Read **Ephesians 6:10-13**. Have your family count how many times they hear the word "stand" in this passage. **Do you think it is obvious that God wants us to stand for good and against evil in this world? In verse 10, who is the one who orchestrates the evil happening in the world?** (*The devil*.)
- 4. Read **verse 11**. **Who do we fight against?** (For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.)

- 5. So, God wants us to stand against evil. But, He wants us to *stand in faith*. Faith that God can do mighty things through us! **How can we stand in faith?** (*Pause for answers*.)
 - *Sing*, worship and praise God- give Him the glory for the good things in our lives.
 - Recognize wrong and evil when we see it or hear about it.
 - Know that we are **surrounded** by Jesus, lots and lots of angels, and a cloud of witnesses who have gone to heaven before us.
 - Pray to God, ask for His help, tell Him what you need. Surrender to Him, knowing you can't do it on your own. We need Him!
 - **Stand** against evil, knowing God will guide you and go before you.
- 6. Is having faith important? Read 1 John 5:4: "This is the victory: your faith!"
- 7. Paul wrote many letters to churches and believers from prison. Every day, he saw Roman soldiers in armor. Along with inspiration from God through the Holy Spirit, this may be what inspired him to **compare our faith walk to the armor worn by soldiers.**
- 8. The first piece of the full armor is the belt of truth. It was the first piece of the armor a soldier had to put on. And we must put on truth. What is truth? (*It's an objective fact. Reality.*) There are truths in the world. About Jesus: He is THE truth (John 14:6). About life, marriage and gender. God's truth, His Word, gives us his truth about all these things.

Parents, go over God's truth about these things with your kids. Show them God's truth in His Word. Teach your kids what God says and show how God's truth is often against what they may be hearing. We must always follow God's truth, it sets us free (John 8:31-32) and it counteracts the lies of the devil (John 8:44).

FAMILY CHALLENGE

 Have your family stand together. Ask if they are ready to work together, serving God. Ask them to put their hands over their hearts with you, pledging to fight with victory.

Say and have them repeat each phrase after you:

- Our family
- Commits to a life of praise, *song* and worship,
- knowing we are not alone
- but *surrounded* by Jesus, angels, and witnesses cheering us on.
- We agree to pray and *surrender* to God's will and His purpose in our lives.
- Finally, we commit to **stand** with faith against evil in this world.

Huddle up, placing hands together, and raise them up with a cheer: Go God!

- 2. Together, watch this music video and worship in song together! "You've Already Won" by Shane&Shane: <u>https://music.youtube.com/watch?v=sM0ovt_nbd4&list=OLAK5uy_n4A8ABbrD3WLXkZff_Q9DjLFIUtf_pmfo</u>
- 3. Walk around your neighborhood together, **praying for the people and families in each home, by name if you are able.** Continue to pray and watch for ways you can care for them.

PRAYER

Dear God, We love you. We believe in You. We trust You. We want to fight Your battles in this world, believing You have already won the victory. In Jesus' Name, Amen.