

#### THE SHOES OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE.

"STAND THEREFORE... AND, AS SHOES FOR YOUR FEET, HAVING PUT ON THE READINESS GIVEN BY THE GOSPEL OF PEACE."

**EPHESIANS 6:15** 

#### **BIG IDEA**

Since Jesus' work has given me peace with God,

I will ready myself to stand firm against the devil's schemes with the shoes of the gospel of peace.

# KNOW YOUR ARMOR

Q: What do shoes protect? Why do you need shoes in this battle?

**A:** Shoes protect your feet.

Q: Why do you need shoes in this battle?

A: Shoes keep you from slipping.

Shoes protect you from being pierced.

Shoes keep you sturdy and maintain your ground in the battle.

Q: What are the Christian's shoes made of?

A: The gospel of peace.

### STAND... IN THE SHOES OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE

- The Christian can stand firm in his battle against the enemy because he is at peace with God.
  - o Stand firm since Jesus' sacrifice on the cross gave you peace with God (Col. 1:20)
  - o Stand firm because God fights on your behalf (1 John 4:4; Rom. 8:31)
  - o Stand firm because nothing will be able to separate you from God's love (Rom. 8:35-39)
- The Christian can stand firm in his battle against the enemy when he is at peace with other Christians.
  - o Christian love for each other is a defining marker of Christ's disciples, so we must do everything in our power to live at peace with other Christians (John 13:35; Rom. 12:18)
  - Christian love for each other should imitate Christ's love for us (1 John 3:16-18)
  - o Our energies for war and battle are to be aimed at the devil, not each other.

## CLUES ABOUT THE ENEMY'S ATTACK

- He will attempt to sow discord between you and God...
  - o By tempting you to doubt God's power over your life circumstances.
  - o By tempting you to doubt God's goodness and care for you.
  - o By accusing you of past and repented-of sin.
- He will attempt to sow discord between you and other Christians.

### READY YOURSELF... TODAY AND TOMORROW

- Rehearse the gospel to yourself.
- Remember God's promises to his children.
- Proclaim the gospel to other people in need of peace!

"The devil fears and hates the gospel, because it is God's power to rescue people from his tyranny, both us who have received it and those with whom we share it." - **John Stott**