

Here's a small group guide based on the sermon transcription:

Small Group Guide: Resisting Evil - Ephesians 6:10-20

Opening Question:

- How do you typically respond when faced with temptation or spiritual challenges?

Key Takeaways:

1. We are all engaged in a spiritual battle, regardless of who we are or where we are.
2. The devil is constantly working to undermine God's ideal for our lives.
3. We cannot defeat evil in our own strength - we must be strengthened in the Lord.
4. God provides us with spiritual armor for both protection and active resistance against evil.
5. Our primary stance in spiritual warfare is to "stand firm" in the victory Christ has already won.

Discussion Questions:

1. What are some common misconceptions people have about the devil and spiritual warfare?
2. The sermon mentioned three sources of evil: the world, the flesh, and the devil. How have you experienced temptation or challenges from each of these sources?
3. Paul instructs us to "put on" and "take up" the armor of God. What's the difference between these two actions, and why are both important?
4. Let's discuss each piece of the armor of God. How does each one serve as both protection and equipment for active resistance?
 - Belt of Truth
 - Breastplate of Righteousness
 - Shoes of Peace
 - Shield of Faith
 - Helmet of Salvation
 - Sword of the Spirit
5. Why do you think God instructs us to "stand firm" rather than "charge" in spiritual warfare? How does this change your perspective on facing spiritual challenges?
6. The sermon mentioned that we don't need to win the battle because God has already won it through Christ. How does this truth impact your approach to resisting evil?

Practical Applications:

1. Daily Armor Prayer: Commit to starting each day this week by prayerfully "putting on" and "taking up" each piece of the armor of God.
2. Truth Journal: Keep a journal this week, writing down one truth from God's Word each day that you can use to counter lies or temptations you face.
3. Stand Firm Challenge: Identify an area in your life where you need to "stand firm" against evil influences. Share with the group and ask for prayer support.

4. Victory Reminder: Place a small object (like a stone or coin) in your pocket as a tactile reminder of Christ's victory. When you touch it, say a quick prayer of thanks and recommitment to stand firm.

Closing Prayer:

Close the session by praying together, asking God for strength to resist evil and stand firm in the victory of Christ. Pray for each other's specific challenges and areas of spiritual warfare.