



# COMMUNITY Groups

## September 3, 2023 – Sermon Discussion Questions

### ICEBREAKER

1. Do highs and lows from the last week!
2. Would you consider yourself to be a more offensive (pro-active, stand out) or defensive (reactive, blend in to the crowd) type of personality?

### DIG A LITTLE DEEPER

1. Review the message –
  - a. The shield was a defensive weapon soldiers used to protect themselves, especially from long range attacks
  - b. The enemy attacks us with many different “arrows.” Things like shame, relational discord, and/or false promises
  - c. Recognize the arrows the enemy attacks you with and respond in faith; i.e. confidence in who God is and what’s he’s call you to do.
2. Read Ephesians 6:16
  - a. Talk for a minute as a group and come up with a definition for “faith.” Or at least what you think Paul is referring to when he means “faith.”
  - b. Why do you think Paul compares faith to a shield?
  - c. Read Ephesians 6:11. One of the “schemes” the devil has is to, spiritually speaking, shoot flaming arrows at you. What are some of the “arrows” that the enemy attacks you with most often? You can refer to item 1b above for a list that Ryan mentioned.
  - d. The enemy doesn’t attack everyone the same way. He attacks you the way he does maybe because of your past, your current life pressures, what God wants to do through you etc. Why do you think the enemy attacks you specifically the way he does?
3. Read Ephesians 1:19-22
  - a. Paul describes Jesus’ power in this passage. Do you think this power is something God uses in your life? How have you seen him work this power in your life? When are you most likely to doubt this power?
  - b. How does faith (confidence in) Jesus’ authority and dominion, as Paul says, protect you from the attacks the enemy will bring upon you?
  - c. What does it look like for you, specifically thinking about the attacks the enemy uses against you, to stand firm with the shield of faith?
  - d. What will be some of the challenges you’ll face picking up the shield of faith? What will make it difficult?

### CLOSING

1. What is something you’re having faith for currently? It could be something that hasn’t happened yet? How can you rest in the character and power of God when it comes to that thing?
2. Pray