



COMMUNITY Groups

March 5th, 2017: THE SHIELD & THE SWORD

OPEN

- What are some successful “life hacks” you have discovered recently? Which hacks have you tried? Which have been helpful, and which have not?

DISCUSS & APPLY

- Open to Ephesians chapter 6 and read v. 16-17. What were some of Eric’s main points from the sermon this Sunday? What was your biggest take away for your own life?
- We heard that the shield of faith is rooted in God’s faithfulness. Can a few of us share about a time God showed His faithfulness? What did that look like specifically?
- Read James 1:2-4. If faith is our shield, what do we learn about that shield from these three verses? How have you seen these truths in your own life? What do you feel is the hardest part of this passage? Why?
- Read James 1:5-15. What does James mean by the phrase “double-minded”? What does it look like to be “double-minded”? Think about it like this: What is it like to work with either a subordinate or a supervisor who is “double-minded”? How do you think God views us when we act in this way? What is his attitude towards us?
- What else do you see in v. 5-15? What stands out to you?
- Read James 1:16-27. Could you correlate the truths in this section to a particular piece of the armor of God from Ephesians 6? Which one? What else jumps out at you from this passage? James gives some specific applications here. What are they? Which one do you think applies most to you? How so?

COMMIT

We were challenged this week to have faith in God’s faithfulness, and to “be doers of the word, and not hearers only”. Choose a verse from either James 1 or Ephesians 6 that God is using to challenge you as you trust Him. Will you commit to memorize it? Why or why not? Will you ask someone to hold you accountable and follow up with you about it? Who would that be?

PRAY

Go around the group and take prayer requests. As you pray for each concern, include this request in each prayer: “God, I pray you would produce perseverance in my brother/sister and that perseverance will continue its work of maturity”.