

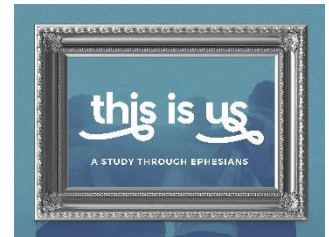
Main Street Church - Life Group Guide

Series: *THIS IS US – A Study Through Ephesians*

Message: **Part 9 – Battle Ready.** Ephesians 6:10-20

Speaker: Shawn Vandop – Lead Pastor

April 19, 2020.



Connect (15-20min) – share refreshments.-

1. ON WINGS LIKE EAGLES

- a. Invite one person to Read [Isaiah 40:25-31](#)
- b. Have another person Open in Prayer.

2. CHECK-IN >> HOW ARE YOU DOING TODAY?

***Have the Group put up their number (with their hands) at the same time for each question.**

a. Focused – Mental Health

*On a scale of 1-10 (10 being Amazing...) – How would you rate your mental health this week?

b. Fit – Physical Health

*On a scale of 1-10 – How would you rate your physical health this week?

c. Filled – Spiritual Health

*On a scale of 1-10 – How would you rate your spiritual health this week?

3. WARRIORS

***If you had to train and fight as a Warrior in any historical context which one would you choose & why?**

Sunday Message Discussion (35-40min)

1. A VISIBLE BATTLE vs AN INVISIBLE ENEMY:

*How the “invisible enemy” of COVID-19 impacting the visible realm? Share some examples.

2. BATTLE READY: Read [Ephesians 6:10-20](#)

- a. What is one initial thing that you notice or learn through this passage?
- b. What is one initial thing that stood out to you from Shawn’s Message on Sunday?
- c. **When Christians talk about Spiritual Warfare what are they talking about?** Can you briefly describe it?
- d. **Why do you think Paul ended his *Letter to the Ephesians* with this teaching and military metaphor?**
 - *Paul focuses on our *Identity & Relationships* throughout Ephesians.
 - *Our *Identity & Relationships* are tested in a real-life battle.

3. KNOW YOUR ENEMY: Read [Job 1:6](#); [John 10:10](#); [John 8:44](#); [1 Peter 5:8](#); [2 Corinthians 11:14-15](#)

- a. **Who is the Enemy? Who is not the Real Enemy?** *Ephesians 6:11-12.
- b. Shawn said, “*Satan isn’t concerned about your recognition, he’s concerned about your destruction.*” & “*Satan will captivate you with a thought and own you with an action.*” >> Respond to these statements.
- c. **What does it mean that Satan (the Enemy) has strategies against your life?**
What are some of his strategies; what does he do and how does he do it? What is his endgame?

***CONSIDER:** Ten of the enemy’s favorite strategies against our lives – from *The Armor of God*, by Priscilla Shirer.

1. Against Your Passion
2. ...Your Focus
3. ...Your Identity
4. ...Your Family
5. ...Your Confidence
6. Against Your Calling
7. ...Your Purity
8. ...Your Rest & Contentment
9. ...Your Heart
10. ...Your Relationships

d. What are some differences between the opposing sides -- Satan & God?

*Satan is not God's peer or counterpart. *Only God is Omniscient, Omnipresent, Omnipotent, Creator...

4. KNOW YOUR KING & COMMANDER: Read [Psalm 18:30-35](#); [Isaiah 9:6](#); [Daniel 2:44](#); [Revelation 19:11-16](#)

a. Who provides our Spiritual Armor? Take a minute as a group to describe Him.

>> He is The Lord of Heavens Armies, and this Armor is for His people.

b. What does it mean to *Be Strong in the LORD and in His Mighty Power?*

Shawn said -- *"You won't be strong in the Lord unless you are aware of your human weaknesses. You cannot be strong in yourself and in the Lord at the same time."*

c. How do we learn to be strong in the Lord in our daily relationships and responsibilities?

d. What role does Prayer play in the Armor of God and our relationship with our King & Commander?

5. KNOW YOUR ARMOR: Quickly Recap the pieces of the Armor of God in [Ephesians 6:10-20](#).

***Belt of Truth**

***Body Armor of Righteousness**

***Boots of the Gospel**

***Shield of Faith**

***Helmet of Salvation**

***Sword of the Spirit**

a. What do you think about Paul's use of Roman Armor? Is it relevant or helpful for us today?
(e.g. his understanding of their equipment, training and collective fighting techniques)

b. Do think Paul's order of the armor is strategic in any way? How so?

c. What part do we play? What is our responsibility in response to the Armor we've been given?

BE STRONG – PUT ON – STAND YOUR GROUND – PRAY – STAY ALERT

c. All of the Armor is essential and important, but which piece of the Armor connects with you the most right now, and why?

d. Is there a piece of the Armor that you feel lacking in or unfamiliar with, or a piece that you feel you need to focus on more this season?

Application & Prayer (15min)

1. BE STRONG – PUT ON – STAND YOUR GROUND – PRAY – STAY ALERT

What is one application that our King & Commander (JESUS) would want you to engage this week in response to Ephesians 6 and His provision of Spiritual Armor for you?

2. Knowing that we have a real enemy, a real battle, real armor and a real Champion...

>>> **Let's PRAY for one another.** Pray out loud for one other person in your Group.

Prayer Releases All Your Eternal Resources

- Richard A. Burr

Resources

***Scripture:** www.openbible.info/topics/spiritual_warfare ***Song:** www.youtube.com/watch?v=wJghcUSZyK4

***Books:** Available through Amazon and Christian Book Stores

– [The Armor of God](#), Priscilla Shirer – [Victory in Spiritual Warfare: Outfitting Yourself for the Battle](#), Dr. Tony Evans

***Weekly Announcements Email**

Consider the [Weekly Announcement Email](#) from Main Street Church & sign-up to receive it by email each Thursday.

Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armor of God.

**Therefore put on
the full armor of God,
so that when the
day of evil comes,
you may be able
to stand your ground,
and after you have
done everything,
to stand.**

