

# Main Street Church - Life Group Guide

Series: **LIGHT & DARK**

## Part 2 – Spiritual Warfare

October 30, 2016



### Connect (10min)

Use the Lord's Prayer [ [Matthew 6:9-13](#) ] to Open in Prayer

\*Option 1: Our Stories -- Have 1-2 people share the 'coles-notes' version of their story (5-7min each).

\*Option 2: What is 1 Thing you are Thankful for today? What is 1 thing we don't know about you yet?

### Check-In (10min)

Read [Mark 12:28-31](#)

\*What is one tangible way that you invested in *your relationship* with GOD beyond Sunday this past week?  
& what is one way that He spoke to you or impacted your life through that?

\*What is one tangible way that you invested in *Loving Others* this past week?  
& what is one way that you were impacted through that?

### Sunday Message Feedback (35-45min)

#### 1. Dressed for Battle

***If you had to time-travel and fight with the armor/uniform/weapons of any era of soldier/warfare, which would you choose and why?***

Eg: Ancient (Egyptian, Greek, Roman, Barbarian), Medieval, Gunpowder Warfare, Industrial Warfare, or Modern Warfare

#### 2. What impacted you from Sunday's message by Pastor Shawn?

: What challenged or encouraged you, and why? : What can you apply to your faith & life this week? How?

#### 3. Life is a Battlefield -- Read [Ephesians 6:10-18](#)

*"We are locked in a battle. This is not a friendly, gentlemen's discussion. It is a life and death conflict between the spiritual hosts of wickedness and those who claim the name of Christ." – Francis A. Schaeffer*

*"Spiritual warfare is very real. There is a furious, fierce, and ferocious battle raging in the realm of the spirit between the forces of God and the forces of evil. Warfare happens every day, all the time. Whether you believe it or not, you are in a battlefield. You are in warfare." – Pedro Okoro*

*"There is no neutral ground in the universe; every square inch, every split second is claimed by God and counterclaimed by Satan." – C.S. Lewis*

*"The nature of the enemy's warfare in your life is to cause you to become discouraged and to cast away your confidence. Not that you would necessarily discard your salvation, but you could give up your hope of God's deliverance. The enemy wants to numb you into a coping kind of Christianity that has given up hope of seeing God's resurrection power."  
– Bob Sorge*

**Discuss the Impact & Application of the following 3 Keys from Sunday's Message:**

- a. We don't avoid the Battle – we stand firm in them.
- b. If I don't know I'm in a Battle or have an enemy, I've already lost.
- c. I need to Know my Commander and who I fight with and for.

**4. Armed & Equipped**

**Note:** The Apostle Paul's reference point for the Armor & Warfare Strategy was the Roman Soldier.

**a. Based on what you know about Roman soldiers/armies -- how/why were they so effective?**

- [eg. they were well trained & equipped, disciplined, & they fought effectively as a unit (offense & defense)]
- > **How can we translate this into the Spiritual application used by Paul?** (Refer to the photo/chart on p.3&4)
- > **How do you think the original audience of Christians received and applied Paul's metaphor/message?**

**5. Modern Warfare:** If Paul were writing this passage of Scripture today how may the armor look different? Instead of a Roman soldier what would he use to describe the armor in today's culture?

**The Armor of God**

**The Belt of Truth** (v.14)

**The Breastplate of Righteousness/Body Armor** (v.14)

**The Shoes of Peace** (v.15)

**The Shield of Faith** (v.16)

**The Helmet of Salvation** (v.17)

**The Sword of the Spirit** (v.17)

- b. Which piece of God's Armor do you understand and engage with the most, and why?
- c. Paul tells us that we must put on "*every piece of armor*" (v.13), why is this important for spiritual victory? What happens when we fail to wear it all? Why would someone not wear it all?
- d. **Discuss** how we are instructed to engage once we have the Armor on? (v.18)

**6. Worth Fighting For:**

Shawn said that "**we change how we fight when we have something worth fighting for.**"

Has your understanding of spiritual warfare changed over the years? Has your desire to fight for God's Kingdom become more passionate in your life? Why or why not?

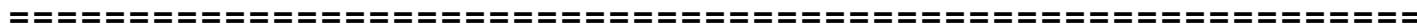
**Application**

Share the Reading of [Romans 13:11-14](#); [2 Corinthians 10:3-5](#); [2 Timothy 2:3-4](#); [Romans 8:35-39](#)

**1. What can we apply to our faith & living this week - from Ephesians 6... and the scriptures we just read?**

\*What is one personal example of how this applies to your faith & living?

**2. Participate in our next [Prayer Summit](#) (Nov.27). Register for our next [Set Free Retreat!](#)**



**Prayer** (15-20min) \*Prayer is a key weapon and way of engaging in Spiritual Warfare\*

[Break into groups of 3-4, or Men & Women]

What is one area or issue of spiritual battle that we can engage in prayer for you this week?

[An area that needs freedom, victory, healing, wholeness, strength, grace, truth...]

**Praise God – Thank God – Pray for One Another in Jesus' Name**

## Resources

Scripture References:

[https://www.openbible.info/topics/spiritual\\_warfare](https://www.openbible.info/topics/spiritual_warfare)

OneMinuteApologist – YouTube Channel

[Is There Such a Thing as Spiritual Warfare?](#)

[What about spiritual warfare?](#)

[How Do We Prepare for Spiritual Warfare?](#)

Break Every Chain – [Song/Lyric-Video](#) (the closing song from Sunday's Service)

Roman Soldier Description:

A plate of armor made of metal strips tied together with leather straps protected the upper body. Although this metal jacket was heavy, the metal strips allowed the soldier some free movement. Soldiers had to help each other put on and lace up their armor.



— PUT ON THE FULL —

# ARMOR *of* GOD

*Ephesians 6:10-17*



## The Belt {of Truth}

*"Stand firm in the belt of truth buckled around your waist" —Ephesians 6:14*



## The Breastplate {of Righteousness}

*"with the breastplate of righteousness in place," —Ephesians 6:14*



## The Shoes {of Peace}

*"For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News so that you will be fully prepared." —Ephesians 6:15*



## The Shield {of Faith}

*"Above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one." —Ephesians 6:16*



## The Helmet {of Salvation}

*"Take the helmet of salvation." —Ephesians 6:17*



## The Sword {of Spirit}

*"the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God." —Ephesians 6:17*