

Living as a community intentionally focused on cultivating the life of Christ in others.

## GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE - THIS IS WAR! - Wk 5

## **ARRIVAL / CONNECTING and SNACK:** (15 minutes)

Spend the first 15 minutes or so of your time together catching up and socializing with one another. Follow up on prayer requests and any action steps from your last time together.

## **SHORT OPENING PRAYER FOR YOUR TIME TOGETHER: (2 minutes)**

**VIDEO:** if you have access, watch the In Group Video on our website or our App (4 minutes)

**SCRIPTURE and DISCUSSION:** (50 minutes) Have everyone open their Bibles to **Ephesians 6**. Have one person slowly read verses 10-20. Silently meditate on that for 1 or two minutes. Now, reread each section of Scripture below and discuss the questions that follow.

"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."

- What do you think the apostle Paul meant by "when the day of evil comes?"
- What does it look like for a believer to "stand firm" when under spiritual attack?

"Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God."

\*\*\*NOTE: Paul is using the metaphor of battle armor to teach us that the person of Jesus Christ is our true armor. Each piece of battle gear is a picture of how Christ protects us and gives us the power to defeat the enemy.

- Which piece of armor resonates with where you are in your walk with God right now?
- How does faith extinguish the attacks of the enemy?
- One a scale of 1 to 100, how well can you wield the sword of God's word in spiritual battle? Explain your answer.

"And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should."

- What does Paul ask the Ephesian church to pray in regards to his ministry?
- How have you seen God answer your prayers in relation to a recent spiritual battle?

**SURRENDER:** (10 minutes) In light of this discussion, for what would you like personal prayer?

**CLOSING PRAYER:** (10 minutes ) Spend time praying for and encouraging one another.