



GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE – THIS IS WAR! - Wk 1

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)

NOTE FROM JOEL ENGLE: I believe your group will get the most out of this week's discussion by following a somewhat different flow. Please read the Scripture passage 3 or 4 times before you move to the questions. I suggest having a different person read each time, slowly, and have 1-2 minutes silence between the readings. After the last reading, spend 10-15 minutes in group prayer, as the Spirit leads.

SCRIPTURE and PRAYER: (25 minutes)

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. ¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. ¹³ 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." - Ephesians 6:10-13

DISCUSSION: (30 minutes)

1. How does Paul tell us to deal with the devil's schemes in verses 10 and 11?
2. How have you experienced spiritual warfare in your life recently?
3. Why is it important for Christians to understand that our enemy is not "flesh and blood?"
4. Read verse 12 again. What are the implications of how Satan's forces work against humanity? (*answer is in the "rulers" "authorities" "powers" "spiritual forces"---Paul is clearly showing us that there is a demonic hierarchy in place that wreaks havoc on the world*)
5. How have you seen people downplay the reality of spiritual warfare?
6. How have you seen people live in fear of Satan and his demonic forces?
7. Based on this passage, how do we stand our ground against the enemy? (*answers are in verse 10, verse 11 "armor of God....take your stand", and verse 13*)

SURRENDER: (10 minutes) In light of your Scripture reading, prayer, and discussion, each of you share one thing you would most like personal prayer for.

CLOSING PRAYER: (10 minutes) Pray specifically for one another.