Covered (week 2)

Ephesians 6:10-12 (NLT)

A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on all of **God's armor** so that you will be able to stand firm **against all strategies of the devil.**

For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.

Satan's key strategy: Attack where you are <u>VULNERABLE</u>

- 1. Anger
- 2. Pride
- 3. Distractions
- 4. Division

Ephesians 6:13-17 (NLT)

Therefore, put on every piece of God's armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm.

There is a **SPIRITUAL** world that is **UNSEEN**.

There is very real <u>WARFARE</u> taking place all around us.

Ephesians 6:14-17 NLT

Stand your ground, putting on the belt of truth and the body armor of God's righteousness.

Salvation and daily victory begins with <u>TRUTH</u>.

<u>CHARACTER</u> and <u>INTEGRITY</u> guard your soul.

Proverbs 4:20-23 (NLT)

My child, pay attention to what I say.
Listen carefully to my words.
Don't lose sight of them.
Let them penetrate deep into your heart,
for they bring life to those who find them,

and healing to their whole body.

Guard your heart above all else,

for it determines the course of your life.

Ephesians 6:13-17 (NLT)

For **shoes**, put on the **peace that comes from the Good News** so that you will be fully prepared.

We <u>LIVE</u> knowing Christ has already <u>WON</u>.

Ephesians 6:13-17 (NLT)

In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows of the devil.

Genesis 3:1 (NLT)

The serpent was the shrewdest of all the wild animals the Lord God had made. One day he asked the woman, "Did God really say you must not eat the fruit from any of the trees in the garden?"

Complete TRUST in Christ is a moment by moment CHOICE.

Ephesians 6:13-17 (NLT)

Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

We are <u>PRESERVED</u> and <u>PROTECTED</u> by Christ.

The only <u>WEAPON</u> I need is His <u>WORD</u>.

Ephesians 6:14-22 (MSG)

Truth, righteousness, peace, faith, and salvation are more than words. Learn how to apply them throughout your life.

Talk it Over:

- 1. Share a time or situation when you felt "attacked." What did you do?
- 2. Talk through the list of areas we might be "vulnerable" to the strategy of satan in our lives. Is there one area that sticks out to you in particular?
- 3. Read Proverbs:20-27 together. Share what stands out to you in

the text. What wisdom can we gather from this text?

- 4. What do you feel like God is challenging you to do this week?
- 5. Spend some time praying specifically for one another.

Take a Deeper Look:

Read - Think - Pray - write down your thoughts... then do something - GO BE THE CHURCH!

This week's challenge to go deeper is different. Make some flash cards and work at memorizing some of these important verses that deal with the spiritual battle we face daily.

Satan's strategy is to destroy through intimidation and isolation
 Peter 5:8 (NLT)

Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour.

2. God is the source of ALL that is GOOD - Satan, the author of evil.

James 1:13 (NLT)

And remember, when you are being tempted, do not say, "God is tempting me." God is never tempted to do wrong, and he never tempts anyone else.

3. The battle is real.

Galatians 5:17

The sinful nature wants to do evil, which is just the opposite of what the Spirit wants. And the Spirit gives us desires that are the opposite of what the sinful nature desires. These two forces are constantly fighting each other, so you are not free to carry out your good intentions.

4. Satan has been disarmed and defeated.

Colossians 2:15 (NLT)

In this way, he disarmed the spiritual rulers and authorities. He shamed them publicly by his victory over them on the cross.

5. God gives you power to resist temptation.

1 Corinthians 10:13 (NLT)

The temptations in your life are no different from what others

experience. And God is faithful. He will not allow the temptation to be more than you can stand. When you are tempted, he will show you a way out so that you can endure.

6. Good and evil are REAL and even Jesus himself was targeted by Satan

Matthew 4:1 (NLT)

Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted there by the devil.

Matthew 4:10-11 (NLT)

"Get out of here, Satan," Jesus told him. "For the Scriptures say, 'You must worship the Lord your God and serve only him. Then the devil went away, and angels came and took care of Jesus.

7. We must use the right weapons

2 Corinthians 10:4 (NLT)

We use God's mighty weapons, not worldly weapons, to knock down the strongholds of human reasoning and to destroy false arguments.

8. God has already won - live in victory!

1 John 4:4 (NLT)

But you belong to God, my dear children. You have already won a victory over those people, because the Spirit who lives in you is greater than the spirit who lives in the world.

9. We are in an "invisible war" with very real physical/eternal consequences.

Ephesians 6:11 (NLT)

Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil.

10. There is a battle for every person on the planet: God's plan is for life, and Satan's plan is for death.

John 10:10 (NLT)

The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life.

11. Pray intensely and strategically.

Ephesians 6:18 (NLT)

Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.

12. Our identity is in the One who loves us and has sacrificed for us. **Romans 8:37 (NLT)**

No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us.