

In part two of our series Evil, Johannes mentions the need to apply Ephesians 6:10-20 into our everyday life.

Ephesians Overview:

Author and Date: Ephesians was written by the apostle Paul while he was imprisoned in Rome around A.D. 61.


First readers and their location: Ephesians was written to a very cosmopolitan setting with many different ethnicities, cultures, and social standings. It was most likely sent to a group of cities surrounding the city of Ephesus. Ephesus was a major centre with a population estimated to be 600,000. It was also a major port city. Along with this economic and political standing it was also home to one of the Seven Wonders of the World, the Temple of Diana or Artemis. It was well known to be a very immoral city.

Why was it written?: Paul wrote this book to expand on teachings regarding, identity in Christ, Living for Christ, Unity in Christ, and the purpose and place of the church in God's Kingdom.



Open-up

Have you ever faced a situation where you thought you might have to fight your way out? What happened?

 **Into the Bible**

Read: Ephesians 6:10-20

What do you notice about the passage itself? (Structure, repeated words or ideas, unique words, main points...) Ask the question, "What does it say?" (For more help on effective Bible Study see the resources at the back)

How does Paul describe the battle that is raging? Who are the participants? Ultimately how does he describe the struggle?

What reason does Paul give for putting on the full armor of God?

What are the pieces of armor? Which are defensive and which are offensive weapons? What does each piece of armor represent?

How is victory won in this passage?

How is prayer presented in this passage? Who is the target of our prayers?



Into my life

Ask the question, "What does this look like in my life?"

If Christ has defeated Satan and the spiritual forces, why do we still struggle with sin?

How have you given Satan a foothold in your life? Why do you think it has happened?

In your life, which piece of armor is need of reparation or replacement? Why? (Pray for each other in this)

Who in your life has helped you stay true to Jesus. How can you thank them this week? Who are you helping stay true to Jesus?

Other Application Questions:

Is there something to worship or thank God for?

Is there a promise to claim or a truth to believe?

Is there something I am convicted about that I need to work on?

Is there something or someone I need to pray for this week? (Be specific)

Is there any relationship I need to work on?



Into the World

Ask, "what does this look like in my day to day life?"

If someone approached you to share your faith, what would you say? Practice on someone in the group, sharing the hope you have in Jesus? What was the exercise like? What did it surface for you?