



SEQUIM COMMUNITY CHURCH

EPHESIANS

SESSION 23: THE BATTLE WE FACE

Ephesians 6:17-24 • May 29, 2018

"Exploring the new standards and new relationships God intends for us"

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1. Can you identify the "flaming arrows" with which you are particularly vulnerable? E.g. insults, setbacks, criticism, various temptations, discouragement etc. _____

- How does God help you extinguish them? _____

"Take the helmet of salvation" - Ephesians 6:17

The helmet protects our minds from doubting God's promises, since one of Satan's primary tactics is to plant the seed of doubt. His first words to Eve in Genesis 3:1 were "Did God really say?"

2. How does knowing that you are saved by God give you confidence? _____

"and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God." - Ephesians 6:17

The sword is the only offensive weapon in this armor. When we are tempted we need to trust in the truth of God's word.

3. Has God's word (for example a verse from the Bible that you remembered) ever helped you to combat a temptation? _____

4. Which piece of armor do you tend to need most in fighting your spiritual battles? _____

"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 saints. Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, 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." - Ephesians 6:18-20

5. For what specifically is Paul asking his readers to pray? _____

6. Why does Paul's call to prayer follow his discussion of our spiritual battle and armor? _____

• How does prayer relate to this battle? _____

Digging Deeper

For those who want to do more personal reflection on this topic.

Ephesians 6:21-24 The Conclusion:

"Tychicus, the dear brother and faithful servant in the Lord, will tell you everything, so that you also may know how I am and what I am doing. I am sending him to you for this very purpose, that you may know how we are, and that he may encourage you.

Peace to the brothers, and love with faith from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace to all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with an undying love."

Paul's letter was written to the church at Ephesus, but it was also meant for circulation among other churches in the area. Paul presents the supremacy of Christ, talks about the nature of the church and how church members should live, and stresses the unity of all believers - male, female, parent, child, master, servant.

A. What did you learn from verses 6:21-24 about relationships among Christians in the early church? _____

B. Reread the book of Ephesians and discuss what you think we're the most important lessons you learned from it. _____

• Who you are in Christ _____

• God's goal for the church _____

• How you should live _____

• How you can pray _____