

Discussion Questions

LifeGroups



Date: October 4, 2020
Sermon Series: The Rise of the Evil Empire: The War
Sermon Title: The War Part 2
Sermon Text: Ephesians 6:10-12

Bottom Line

Every day there is a supernatural battle for your soul! On the one hand the devil wants to claim you for himself, accusing you of being a sinner who cannot be accepted by God. But God has a counter claim on your life based on what Christ, His Son, has done for you. You're either on God's side or the devil's side. To assume you're better than that is to prove whose child you really are! Until we kneel before Christ and admit He is very God, we are against him, not for him.

Satan is a schemer, constantly coming up with strategies. He never quits until we die and slip out of his reach. His greatest power is his lies, which he is constantly trying to upload into our thinking in order to redirect our behavior. Think of his influence on your life, your children, and society in general. Satan has worked long, hard and relentlessly to get the access he now enjoys.

Scripture

Ephesians 6:10-13 (ESV)

10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. 13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.

Isaiah 14:12-15 (ESV)

12 "How you are fallen from heaven, O Day Star, son of Dawn! How you are cut down to the ground, you who laid the nations low! 13 You said in your heart, 'I will ascend to heaven; above the stars of God I will set my throne on high; I will sit on the mount of assembly in the far reaches of the north; 14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High. 15 But you are brought down to Sheol, to the far reaches of the pit."

2 Timothy 2:25-26 (NLT)

25 Gently instruct those who oppose the truth. Perhaps God will change those people's hearts, and they will learn the truth. 26 Then they will come to their senses and escape from the devil's trap. For they have been held captive by him to do whatever he wants.

Gratitude, Prayer and Accountability

What happened this past week that you are grateful for? What would you like to prayer for today? How did God work in your life since the last time we were together? What is He doing through you as it relates to your Adopt 7?

Let's Start

This was the last week in our sermon series, "Rise of the Evil Empire." Looking back over the past five weeks, what are some of your biggest takeaways from this series?

Let's Talk

1. Each week, we have taken time to read Ephesians 6:10-13. One of the points that Pastor Dale made in his sermon is that every day there is a supernatural battle for your soul. Given that truth, let's read Ephesians 6:10-13 once more and read it through the lens of this battle. How does this passage help you see the battle more clearly? How have you faced the battle this past week?
2. Pastor Dale quoted a news anchor who recently said, "Jesus admittedly was not perfect when he was on this earth...some things you need to unlearn." How should Christians react when they hear such quotes? What does the Bible teach about the perfection of Christ? Why is the perfection of Christ one of the areas that the enemy might want attacked?
3. Look at Isaiah 14:12-15. Pastor Dale said, "Until we kneel before God and admit that He is very God, we are against him and not for him." Do you agree or disagree with that statement? Why or why not?
4. In his sermon, Pastor Dale talked about the concept of a functional master. What is a functional master? (Hint: "My life can only have meaning if . . .")
5. Pastor Dale talked about the fact that the devil is a schemer who has influenced so much of systems of this world? What are some of the subtle ways that our enemy has gained influence in the world's systems?
6. Read 2 Timothy 2:25-26. What role does truth play in helping to stand against the devil's schemes?

