

COMMUNITY GROUP

DISCUSSION GUIDE

May 16-17

WELCOME/ OPENING PRAYER

PURPOSE: *We are here as a group to make and multiply disciples.*

DISCUSSION GUIDELINES

RELATIONAL WARMUP: *What is one thing you never leave home without?*

SET THE STAGE: Ephesians 6 comes to a close with a reminder that life includes spiritual struggle. Thriving relationships are under constant pressure and attack in a fallen world. Our adversary? An unseen and spiritual realm hostile to the Kingdom of God. When we see the spiritual struggle going on around us, we need to take advantage of every tool offered to us. We clothe ourselves with spiritual armor. We do that by staying in close fellowship with the Holy Spirit. We also pray for each other, dig deeply into community, take correction from each other, and accept the kind of encouragement that reminds us who we now are—children of God who bear His image. That's the basis for solid, life-giving relationships as we walk with Jesus and live life in the Spirit.

READ THE PASSAGE: *Ephesians 6:10-20*

HEAD QUESTIONS:

In this passage, Paul describes spiritual armor. In what ways is the armor connected to God?

We are told to “take up” and “put on” this armor. What do you think this involves?

What is the goal of using the armor?

HEART QUESTIONS:

In what ways might this armor and prayer help you to be alert to temptation?

Which piece of God's armor resonates with you right now? Why?

Where do you notice a spiritual struggle in your relationships? What might change if you viewed that struggle as more than a personality conflict or difficult circumstance?

HANDS QUESTIONS:

What does it look like for us to “stand firm” in the Lord this week? Which truth will you remind yourself of – so that you remember where strength comes from?

TAKEAWAY

CLOSING PRAYER