

**Digging Deeper Study**  
**We Believe... in the battle of the unseen world**  
**Week of August 17 , 2025**

<p><b>NIV</b> Ephesians 6:10-12 "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms."</p>	<p>"In essentials, unity; (1 Corinthians 12:12-13) in non-essentials, liberty; (Romans 14:1) in all things, charity." (John 13:34)</p> <p>Quote: In the battle of the unseen world, the core of our strategy is to fight FROM victory, not FOR victory.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• "Notice the very first command: 'Be strong <b>in the Lord</b>.' Why do you think that's the starting point for spiritual warfare, even before mentioning the enemy or the armor?"</li><li>• "The sermon mentioned that our confidence comes from God's flawless plan, not our own abilities. On a practical level, what does it</li></ul>
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Isaiah 14:12-14

<sup>12</sup> How you have fallen from heaven,  
morning star, son of the dawn!  
You have been cast down to the  
earth,

you who once laid low the  
nations!

<sup>13</sup> You said in your heart,  
"I will ascend to the heavens;  
I will raise my throne  
above the stars of God;  
I will sit enthroned on the mount of  
assembly,  
on the utmost heights of Mount  
Zaphon.<sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>14</sup> I will ascend above the tops of  
the clouds;  
I will make myself like the Most  
High."

Philippians 2:5-8

look like to consciously rely on God's strength instead of your own in a difficult situation?"

- "Verse 12 says our struggle is **not** against flesh and blood. How does remembering this change the way you view a conflict with a coworker, a family member, or a friend?"

- "What is the core desire behind satan's five 'I will' statements in Isaiah?"

<sup>5</sup> In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

<sup>6</sup> Who, being in very nature<sup>[a]</sup> God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

<sup>7</sup> rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature<sup>[b]</sup> of a servant, being made in human likeness.

<sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

James 4:7-8

"Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee

- How does Jesus's attitude provide the perfect antidote or opposite to satan's pride?"
- "The sermon identified the enemy's two main strategies as **Lies** and **Intimidation**. Which of those two do you feel is more effective against you personally? Why?"
- Get specific about the lies. What is one recurring negative, accusing, or fearful thought the enemy whispers to you? (e.g., 'You're not good enough,' 'God is disappointed in you,' 'Your past defines you'). Now, what is a specific truth from Scripture that directly counters that lie?"

from you. Come near to God and he will come near to you."

Ephesians 6:10-17

<sup>10</sup> Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. <sup>11</sup> Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. <sup>12</sup> For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. <sup>13</sup> Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. <sup>14</sup> Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, <sup>15</sup> and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup> In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which

The order of operations here is critical: **Submit, then Resist.** Why can't we effectively resist the devil if we haven't first submitted to God?

you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. <sup>17</sup> Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Colossians 2:15

"[God] disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross."

2 Corinthians 10:5 - "We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ."

Philippians 4:8 - "Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true,

Besides quoting scripture, what are some other practical ways we can 'resist' the enemy's influence this week?"

The victory is already won. How does fighting FROM victory change your mindset compared to fighting FOR victory?

### **So what?**

When a negative, accusing, or fearful thought comes, stop and ask: 'Is this from my Commander or is this from the enemy?'

Read each of the following scriptures and talk about how they can help you in carrying out the "So what?" for this week.

whatever is noble, whatever is right,  
whatever is pure, whatever is lovely,  
whatever is admirable—if anything  
is excellent or praiseworthy—think  
about such things."

Ephesians 6:16 - "In addition to all  
this, take up the shield of faith, with  
which you can extinguish all the  
flaming arrows of the evil one."

Romans 12:2 - "Do not conform to  
the pattern of this world, but be  
transformed by the renewing of  
your mind. Then you will be able to  
test and approve what God's will  
is—his good, pleasing and perfect  
will."