

Sermon Discussion Guide November 16, 2025

Refresh

Read Ephesians 6:13-17 to get the Scripture passage back in your mind.

Discuss

We were cautioned against having the mindset of "I'm waiting for God to change me." Where do you see the tension between God's sovereign work in sanctification and our responsibility to take personal action in our pursuit of sanctification (Eph. 6:13)? Why are we so often tempted to sit back and wait on God to work in us rather than striving to faithfully do our part?

Pastor Mark emphasized that the armor imagery comes from Isaiah's portrayal of the Messiah, not a Roman soldier. How does seeing Christ as the true Divine Warrior deepen our understanding of the armor of God? What difference does it make that the armor is *His* before it is ours?

The "belt of truth" includes both knowing the truth and living truthfully. Which of these two dimensions do you find more challenging, and why is that? How does truth function to stabilize believers and give us confidence in our spiritual battle?

The "breastplate of righteousness" protects us from Satan's accusations. Why are Satan's accusations oftentimes so overwhelming for us? What does it look like, practically, for believers to answer those lies with the righteousness of Christ?

The Roman phalanx was mentioned as an image of faith strengthened in community. In what ways does this help us understand how our faith is strengthened through community with other brothers and sisters? Do you have any examples to share of a time when other believers helped strengthen your faith amid a spiritual attack?

Why do we often isolate when we are under spiritual attack rather than pressing into the community of believers the Lord has placed in our lives? What are the dangers of trying to overcome our spiritual battles alone? What are the blessings of leaning on others around us when we are faced with spiritual battles?

The "sword of the Spirit" refers to the Word of God that is actively brought to mind and used. What practices help you keep your "sword sharp"? What rhythms could you establish in your life that would help you to learn, study, memorize, and meditate on the Word of God more regularly?