



Life Group Sermon Study

Call of Duty: Helmet of Salvation

November 11, 2018



ENGAGE

Break the Ice: (The purpose of these first questions is to help your group open up. Please don't feel like you have to ask each question. You may even have a better question. Once you feel that the group is engaged, move on to the "Inspire" section.)

- When it comes to cycling, skateboarding, riding a motorcycle, etc., are you pro- or anti- helmet?
- What did God teach you during the message this weekend? Did anything in particular stand out?

Prayer: Take some time to pray for God's Spirit to speak to your group through His Word.

INSPIRE

(Since the group may need time to process each question, don't let silence scare you. Try to avoid filling the space with unnecessary explanation or moving on from the question too quickly.)

Our salvation is a past, present, and future reality.

1. We are **justified** (made righteous) in God's sight by faith in the finished work of Christ.
 - Have a few members of your group share their conversion story.
2. We are **sanctified** (set apart) by the ongoing work of the Holy Spirit.
 - Read Philippians 2:12-13. What do you think Paul means to "work out your salvation"?
3. We will be **glorified** when Jesus returns to receive us to himself.
 - What motivates you the most to push on in the Christian life: The fear of judgment? The knowledge God will reward faithfulness? The hope of the resurrection?
4. Read 1 Thessalonians 5:8. How does the helmet (the hope of salvation) protect your mind? How is a person without hope vulnerable to Satan's attacks (evil and lewd thoughts, lies and doubts)?
 - Read Romans 12:2. How easy is it to let our guard down when going about our daily lives?
5. Read Romans 8:24-25; Romans 15:13; Galatians 5:5; 1 Peter 1:13; Romans 5:5; Lamentations 3:26. These verses and many others in the Bible give us hope that the salvation of the Lord will surely come. How do these verses help us face and overcome our present suffering?
6. Phil pointed out that the hope of salvation produces:
 - Holiness—overcoming sin and temptation; weaknesses of the flesh
 - Perseverance—overcoming life's trials and suffering
 - Joy—overcoming a heavy heart; discouragement

Which of these three do you need the most in your life right now? Which is the strongest?



EQUIP

(These questions will challenge your group members to apply the study to their daily lives. It is highly important that you go over this section with your group each week for the group study to be a success. Set aside 15-20 minutes at the end of your study to go over this section.)

A person without hope is vulnerable to the enemy's lie that life is not worth living.

All of us were without hope before we knew the Lord (see Ephesians 2:12); however, even God's people can experience attacks against their hope. In I Kings 18-19, the prophet Elijah succumbed to depression, even after a great victory against the false god Baal on Mount Carmel. He had to run for his life and go into hiding from Queen Jezebel. It was then that Elijah asked God to let him die, but God wouldn't let him die.

There may be times in our lives when we feel like Elijah did. Satan will attempt to bombard our minds with discouragement, doubt, and defeat. He will point out our failures, try to get us to focus on the negative, and attack our hope in Christ. It is then that we need the helmet of salvation.

We also see in the book of Job that even in Job's lowest point of suffering, he was able to say of the Lord, "Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him" (Job 13:15). Job's hope in the unchanging goodness of God was able to sustain him through the barrage of enemy attacks.

Prayer:

Take some time to pray for one another, specifically that each might experience more the hope of salvation.

Equip Your Mind:

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. 2 Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

Hebrews 12:1-3 (NIV)