

MAY 21, 2023

Battle at Rephidim
Exodus 17:8-16

*When it comes to the battles we face,
we can either fight them _____ way or _____ way.*

Amalekites: Descendants of Esau, the estranged brother of Jacob (Gen 36:12). First mentioned in Genesis 14:7. Nomadic, desert-dwelling people who held a deep-seated grudge against Israel. Among other tribes who constantly attack Israel though unprovoked (Deut 25:17-18). Agag (1Sam 15:32) was an Amalekite and likely Esther's foe, Haman. (Esther 3:1)

Joshua: Eventually became Moses' successor (Num 27:18-21) but is already a prominent warrior in the desert. One of the faithful spies Moses sent to explore the promised land (Num 13 & Deut 1:22-40).

Aaron: The brother of Moses, his spokesperson, and partner in confronting Pharaoh.

Hur: Staunch ally of Moses left in charge along with Aaron when Moses ascended Mt. Sinai (Ex 24:14). Probably the grandfather of Bezalel, skilled designer of the Tabernacle (Ex 36:1-3; 38:22). Josephus says Hur is Moses' brother-in-law.

1. _____ you are in a _____.
John 16:33; 1Tim 6:12; 2Tim 2:7
2. Have total _____, not
yourself. Ex 17:10; Ps 46:10
3. Know _____ your enemy is.
John 8:44; 10:10; 2Cor 11:14; Eph 6:11-12
4. Be _____. Eph 6:13-18
5. _____ on each other.
6. Give God _____ the _____.

TALK IT OVER

Talking through the message during the week can really help clarify the things that God is teaching you and let others learn from your experiences. Get with someone this week and talk about your answers to the following questions:

Big Picture

What stood out most in the message to you regarding something that you learned, challenged you, or that you disagreed with? And, in what ways can you see these truths being lived out in your relationships and life this week?

Dig In (Pick 1 or 2)

Read Ephesians 6:10-18 & 2 Corinthians 10:3-6. What do these passages tell you about spiritual battles and how to be best prepared for them?

Read the following verses about the evil one: Eph 6:11; John 8:44 & 10:10; 2Cor 11:14. What do we know about Satan and his goals? In what ways do you see him at work today in undermining God's redemptive purpose? In what ways do you think he "masquerades as an angel of light?" In what ways does he get too much credit?

Why do you think the author put so much emphasis on Moses on the hill rather than the actual battle in the valley?

Teacher's Pick

Describe a battle you've faced in the past that you think you could have been more intentional in fighting it "God's way." Which of the six principles mentioned in the message could you have been more focused on?

Putting It Into Practice

Share with the group any battle you're currently facing. How does what you learned from the message affect how you'll face it? How can the group "hold up hands" together? Spend some time praying for each other.

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1. Recognize you are in a battle.

John 16:33; 1Tim 6:12; 2Tim 2:7

2. Have total dependence on God, not yourself.

Ex 17:10; Ps 46:10

3. Know who your enemy is.

John 8:44; 10:10; 2Cor 11:14; Eph 6:11-12

4. Be spiritually prepared. Eph 6:13-18

5. Depend on each other.

6. Give God all the glory.

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