

Home Group Leader's Notes
Week of November 29, 2020
The series review for "Armed" series

CALENDAR NOTES:

- The week of December 6 is our final official week of meeting with Home Groups before the Christmas break. It is your call about how much you meet during this time. Please do whatever you can to stay in fellowship with each other.
- This Sunday begins a series through the book of John.
- This Saturday (December 5) is our children's program (see more on our website).
- Home Groups officially resume the week of January 10, 2021

SHARING AND DISCUSSION TIME FOR THIS WEEK

FOR ALL GROUPS: Plan a Christmas time together. Spend some time talking about what would help US celebrate Jesus, be encouraged, and pray together.

For groups that are reviewing and discussing **the sermon series**, here are few ideas of what to do in your group this week.

- 1) How do you think that the enemy uses this Covid season to discourage God's people? What has been a challenge for yourself?
- 2) When you consider the "Armed" series, what aspect of the armor of God is helpful to you? What stands out to you from this series? Below is Todd's summary from Sunday morning.
 - a. Who is our real enemy? Satan, the devil. He is the source of much of our trouble. (We would add that our own sin also causes us trouble, right?)
 - b. All of the armor of God points to and flows from the character of Jesus Christ.
 - c. The belt of truth helps us know God and reality, what is truth. In these times, we need to gird ourselves with truth from God.
 - d. The breastplate of righteousness tells us that we have the gift of the Jesus' righteousness and that we are called to live in His right ways. (My note: The enemy will often accuse and defeat us by calling out and accuses us of unrighteousness. Remembering that we have the righteousness of Jesus will defeat the accusations. See Romans 8:1)
 - e. The shield of faith tells us that as we stand together in faith, we will repel and withstand the fiery darts of the enemy. (These darts are daily, so we really need to stand together in faith in Jesus.)
 - f. The readiness of the gospel reminds us to often remember the gospel when the enemy prowls and that we have the privilege of bringing this gospel of peace. Because it is a gospel of peace, He breaks down the walls of hostility between people.
 - g. The helmet of salvation reminds us that we live in the grace of God. This is a constant assurance that our salvation is from God by grace through faith. Our right place with God flows from his grace.
 - h. The sword of the Spirit is the Word of God. Jesus Himself used this sword to defeat Satan when Jesus was tempted.

- i. Prayer is our constant ways of life. It is how we are to live in His resources, enjoy His presence, and remember that we depend on Him. Through prayer, we declare His authority and power.
 - j. Summary: Putting on the armor of God is clothing yourself with Christ.
- 3) Todd shared two big ideas from the series.
- We are to follow closely our COMMANDER
 - We are to follow closely TOGETHER
 - ASK: What helps you follow closely the COMMANDER?
 - ASK: Of all the things that we do in our Home Group, what helps us follow Him TOGETHER?
- 4) Do you think that the enemy is defeating people in these times? What is He doing?
- 5) How do you see Jesus working in these times?
- 6) How can we reveal Jesus' and the gospel of peace?

PRAY TOGETHER:

- Please remember our brothers and sisters throughout the world. So many are in very difficult times. This includes our global partners.
- Pray for our global partners who are displaced and hoping to return to their homes.
- Pray for our Christmas Eve outreach
- Pray for Micah House relationships and mission
- Pray for our Elders as they shepherd our family of believers

Grace to you my beloved,
Steve