

We consider being in a small group an 'essential.' These huddles are where we grow in relationships and do life together and where we can encourage one another in our amazing mission. Some groups meet through Zoom, others meet in person. Check out the options on our website ([www.trinityonline.org](http://www.trinityonline.org)) or on the Trinity Church app available for phones, etc.

## THIS WEEK

Our plans for this week are unique. Because of the topic, the interviews, and the weekend format, we would like you to watch the service before you meet in your group. You can see this at our website at [www.trinityonline.org](http://www.trinityonline.org) on the home page.

## SHARE FROM YOUR EXPERIENCE

Our focus in this series is "Standing together in spiritual battle." (See Ephesians 6) Since people first fell into sin, the devil has engaged people in warfare using schemes and forces. The players are invisible; the effects are ubiquitous. Jesus promised that we would face tribulations. Paul, the Apostle, said "the man of lawlessness . . . opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship," and that "the mystery of lawlessness is already at work."

The enemy is the devil, Satan, and his aim is to kill and destroy what God loves. One of his key strategies is to cause division and ruin relationships. In the weeks ahead, we will discover how God has equipped us to resist the devil and stand together against his schemes.

What examples of division have you seen in your world? How did this division come about? What were the effects of this division? Is it a stretch to think that the enemy wants and even schemes for this kind of division?

## LEARN FROM GOD'S WORD, THE BIBLE

Read together Ephesians 6:10-13.

What is the tone of this passage? Why might Paul have used this tone?

What are the commands in this passage?

Who is our (plural) struggle against? What does he use against us?

What are we (plural) to do in order to stand against him?

Because people are not our enemy, how should we see people with whom we differ?

## **DISCUSS TOGETHER**

As you consider together this message and Bible study, please discuss how it applies on three levels: your world (family and friends), Trinity Church, and the people in our culture.

The weekend service included two interviews with Marquiis and Martha.  
What did you observe and feel as you heard each of them?

What did you hear in their response to how they are able to forgive and move forward?

What did you hear about how to turn the tide of racism in our community?

One of the repeated things we have heard is that Satan is a slanderer, accusing and attempting to cause division in relationships. He has been successful for years to create racism and division among us.  
What did you hear in the interview with Bob?

Bob concluded that the problems he experienced were spiritual and require a spiritual solution.  
Last week, Todd asked us to pray for a "unity crisis." Could this be the same for us? Could this be a scheme of the enemy? If so, what should we do?

Finally, how can we keep in mind that the ultimate objective is to please God? How is this warfare ultimately about knowing, loving, and following Jesus?

## **PRAYER**

- Please pray for the many hurting, mourning, and ailing people in Trinity and your worlds. Pray for God's healing and how we care for and strengthen one another
- Pray for unity in Trinity and that we would live to please our Lord (See Ephesians 4:1-3)
- Pray for our students and educators and the special challenges they face
- Pray for our global workers, some of whom are displaced or sheltering in difficult places