

7 May 2023 -- Questions to Discuss and Consider at Home or in Small Group

“The Spiritual Battle You Must Fight” -- Ephesians 6:10-24

1. What (or who) is the believer’s strength (v. 10)?
2. Why is the Christian to stand strong? What is the Christian required to do (v. 11)?
3. In this spiritual struggle, who is the real opponent (v. 12)?
4. What must the Christian do after putting on the armor of God (v. 13)?
5. What are the pieces of spiritual armor (vv. 14-17)? State how each piece of divine armor enables the Christian to do spiritual battle.
6. What are Christians actively to engage in during this battle (v. 18a)?
7. For what two specific matters does Paul call upon Christians in Ephesus to pray (vv. 18b-19)?
8. How are Christians to engage in prayer (v. 18b)?
9. How does Paul describe himself (v. 20a)?
10. Why does Paul ask prayer for himself (v. 20b)?
11. Who does Paul send to the Ephesians? What information would this person pass on to the Ephesians? What result does Paul expect (vv. 21-22)?
12. What blessings does Paul bestow upon the Christians in Ephesus as he closes his letter to them (vv. 23-24)?
13. How do you know there is an unseen spiritual world of darkness and evil? Isn’t this just a relic of the superstitious past “dark” ages?
14. Why are Christians not to fear the unseen world of spiritual darkness and evil?
15. What might be some differences between struggling against sin in your life and struggling against the forces of spiritual darkness? What might be some similarities?
16. What is a problem with attempting to explain every problem or difficulty you encounter as the immediate result of evil spirits and forces? What is a problem with refusing to acknowledge an unseen spiritual realm of evil that impacts people during their lives? How do we discern and assess whether the struggle is our own sinful flesh or the influence of the unseen realm of darkness, or both?
17. Which piece of God’s protective armor do you believe you need to “put on” in order to stand more firm?
18. How is prayer an offensive strategy against the world of cosmic powers? What can the Church do to promote the importance of corporate prayer in this struggle? How is prayer often diluted and not used in this cosmic struggle?
19. How is gospel proclamation an offensive strategy? How can Christians individually and corporately employ this strategy in the cosmic struggle?

20. How do we often miss the real opponent in the cosmic struggle? Are people who oppose Christ and the Gospel true opponents?
21. How can Christ Jesus give His people rest when there is a spiritual battle to fight?
22. How can you engage in the spiritual struggle more effectively and with peace and confidence that your efforts will be successful?