

Why Is The Church So Blessed Up?

A Study Of The Book Of Ephesians

Bible Study: The Church Is A Battalion

Ephesians 6:10-24

Icebreaker:

We're beginning worship at the Holiday Inn. Share your favorite "hotel moment or memory" from a recent vacation.

The Study:

In case you haven't noticed, there's a spiritual battle being waged around us, which Paul discusses in chapter 6 of Ephesians. It's a battle that every follower of Christ is summoned to fight in. Let's go deeper into this topic.



Vss. 10-12: The Battle Every Believer Is Called To Fight

In the teaching, we broke out 3 truths from this paragraph:

I. Life Is Hard

"Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might."

1. Anyone who thinks that life ought to be a lovely, problem-free stroll doesn't know the Bible very well. What do these Scriptures teach about life?

Psalm 90:9-10

Psalm 103:15-18

John 16:33

James 4:13-17

II. The People Who Make Our Lives Hard Are Not Our Primary Problem

"For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood."

2. Paul's not saying that there are no 'problem people' in our lives. Jesus said we're to 'love our enemies', not pretend we don't have any. There are people in this world who make our way very difficult. As much as it is tactful to describe, share a situation where a person or people is causing you great stress and difficulty right now.

3. Pause right now to pray for two things: 1) pray for the problem situation, and 2) pray for the problem-person.

4. The Bible gives numerous strategies for dealing with problem people. "Loving an enemy" means different things depending on the situation. So we need to seek the Lord closely and talk to Christian friends to discern what to do. What are some of the ways we can love an enemy or a problem-person?

Luke 4:28-30; Acts 9:23-25

Romans 12:14-21

2 Timothy 4:2; Ephesians 4:15a

III. Our Primary Enemies Are Spiritual Forces Of Evil At Work In The World

"...but against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places."

5. What are some things that the Bible teaches about Satan?

John 8:44

Ephesians 2:1-2

1 Peter 5:8

1 John 5:19

6. What are some things we can do to help win this battle against the dark powers of evil?

Luke 10:19-20; John 14:13-14

Ephesians 4:27

Ephesians 6:18

James 4:7

1 Corinthians 10:13

2 Timothy 2:24-26; Colossians 1:13-14

Revelation 12:10-11

***Vss. 13-18: The Armor That's Needed To
Fight This Battle***

In the teaching, we discussed the importance of each piece of spiritual armor. For each piece of armor answer two questions: 1) What is it referring to? 2) How do I use it?

The Belt Of Truth

Breastplate Of Righteousness

Feet Fitted With Readiness

Shield Of Faith

Helmet Of Salvation

Sword Of The Spirit

Vss. 19-20: The Importance Of Evangelism

Evangelism, or sharing our faith, is not something that comes easily to most of us. In these verses, Paul urges us to think about three things that will help us in this area. Discuss their importance to evangelism.

- **Think about Prayer**

- **Think about our Words**

- **Think about our Heart**

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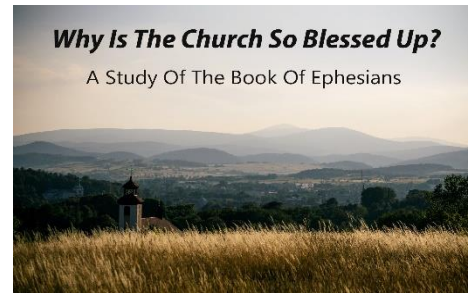
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