

## Small Group Bible Study / Discussion

Sermon Series: *Lord, teach us to pray*

Sermon Title: You're in a battle... Be steadfast!

Passage: Ephesians 6:10-20

Date: January 11, 2009

Message # 2

### Think about it

- What would it be like to be involved in the fighting in Iraq or Afghanistan?
- If you were involved in a battle in a war, what would you want with you?
- What comes to your mind when you hear the term "spiritual warfare"?

### Examine it

- What is Paul's exhortation to his readers? (10)
- What is it that Paul told people to put on? (11) Why should do that?
- How does Paul describe the battle we're in? (12)
- What then must we do? (13) What is the purpose of doing that?
- What are the six pieces of "armor" that Paul mentions? (14-17)
- What else does Paul tell people to do? (18)
- What are the different things that Paul says about how we should pray? (18)
- What does Paul ask people to pray for himself? (19-20)

### Discuss it

- What kind of battle are we in? Who is in it?
- What are we called to be and do because of this battle?
- Why do you think we are called to stand firm? (i.e., rather than to "attack"?)
- What is the "full armor of God" and why is it important?
- How does one put it on?
- What do the various parts of armor mean for us in spiritual battle?
  - Belt of truth
  - Breastplate of righteousness
  - Feet fitted with readiness that comes from the Gospel
  - Shield of faith
  - Helmet of salvation
  - Sword of the Spirit
- How do we apply those pieces of armor to our lives?
- What does prayer have to do with all of this?
- What can we learn about prayer from this passage (esp. vs. 18)?
- How important do you think prayer was to Paul? Why do you say that?

### Live it out

- How can you better understand the battle you are in daily?
- What can you do to stand firm in the spiritual battle you face?
- How can you pray for others in the church, especially church leaders?
- How can you be led by the Spirit in doing battle each day?
- How might you encourage others in the battles they are facing?

### Pray about it

*What does this study prompt you to pray about?*

...something to praise God for? ...thank God for? ...confess? ...ask for?

Additional passage for meditation or memory: Zech. 4:6; 1 Thess. 5:1-9; 1 Peter 4:7; 1 Tim. 2:1-4

Next week's passage: Psalm 139