

Welcome to the Neighborhood

October 27/28 2018



We defeat the devil when we stand together.

Leader Information

This week we'll be focusing on how to battle evil and the resources God gives us to go into battle. The key verse this week is Ephesians 6:10-13. We will take an honest look at how society romanticizes evil and spiritual warfare and how that affects our homes, communities, and each other. We will also be reminded that God has supplied us with every weapon we need to protect ourselves and others against the evil one. Encourage your group that, in Christ, we have already won the war and together we can defeat the devil.

Connect

Ask:

- What are some strong Halloween memories?
- What are your thoughts on "celebrating" Halloween? How can we, as Christ followers, use this holiday to honor God?

Bible Study

Read Ephesians 6:10-13

- According to these verses: who is our real enemy?
- How does Satan wage war on you personally? In your family? Community?
- How does society or media make light of evil or supernatural activity?
- How would the Church around the world change if we applied these verses?

Read Ephesians 6:14-17

Brett reminds us that God has given us every resource we need to battle evil. In these verses, we see that our weapons include God's Word, the Holy Spirit, and the church (brothers and sisters in Christ).

- How can we "suit up" in the Armor of God?
- What does each piece of armor represent?

Brett shared some verses from Isaiah that present God as the warrior (Isaiah 11:5, 49:2, and 59:17), but Paul tells us that, through Christ we are now the warriors.

- How does this encourage and empower you to go to battle against the evil one and his schemes?

Read Ephesians 6:18-20

- According to these verses: when should we be praying?
- What should we be praying for?

Sharing

In the video, Brett challenges us to not think of church as a cruise ship, but rather a battleship. He explains that we are a people on mission to save souls. Unfortunately, we allow unimportant details and our own preferences become that battle we choose to fight.

- What battles should we, as Christians, really be fighting?
- What battles do we get caught up in, that end up wasting our time?

Challenge

We have two challenges this week:

1. **Sign up for a GO:Serve Team.** GO:Serve is an awesome serving opportunity for you and your small group to get involved in and fight for those in our community that have no one else fighting for them. You can join a team by going to www.goimpact360.com and click the GO SERVE tab. You will be given several choices of teams and opportunities to serve Downriver.
2. **Sign up for GO:Feed.** Southpoint has been given a unique opportunity to feed 20,000 people in the Downriver and Detroit area by assembling and packaging meals through an organization called Lifeline. We will gather together on November 10th in the gym at the Southpoint-Allen Park Campus where we will be given everything we need to put these meals together. There are 2 shifts to choose from and we need about 125 people in each shift. You can go to www.goimpact360.com and click the GO SERVE tab. The first choice in the list is GO:Feed.

PRAYER

Let's close by praying as Paul instructs us to in Ephesians 6:18-20.

¹⁸ And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. ¹⁹ Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

1. Pray for the Lord's people (each other)
2. Pray for the leaders- that they will speak boldly and fearlessly about the gospel.
3. Pray that you will speak boldly and fearlessly about the gospel.
4. Pray that we go into battle prepared with God's Word, the Holy Spirit and with each other.