

Discussion Questions

LifeGroups



Date: September 19-20, 2020
Sermon Series: The Rise of the Evil Empire: The War
Sermon Title: Radical Loving Against Spiritual Warfare
Sermon Text: Ephesians 6:10-13

Bottom Line

Hate may have been the old nature before Christ, but love is the new nature since Christ. The blood of Christ clearly absolved any caste system, the walls of the temple upon our Lord's death came crashing down on sin, all sin, to raise up a redeemed system of sinners saved by grace, equally, wholly and free.

Scripture

Ephesians 6:10-13 (NLT)

10 A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11 Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. 12 For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places. 13 Therefore, put on every piece of God's armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm.

Gratitude, Prayer and Accountability

What happened this past week that you are grateful for? What would you like to prayer for today? How did God work in your life since the last time we were together? What is He doing through you as it relates to your Adopt 7?

Let's Start

This week, our guest speaker, Bishop Howell, spoke about the role that radical loving takes in overcoming spiritual warfare. He spoke for a great deal of time about the injustice in our world. What are some of the areas of injustice that you see as most prevalent in our society today?

Let's Talk

1. In his message, Bishop Howell asked if anyone had a "but God" testimony (ex: "I was messed up, but God . . ." "I was suicidal, but God . . ." "I was a _____, but God. . ." What is your "I was, but God . . ." testimony?

2. Read Ephesians 6:10-12. How do these verses correlate to all of the injustice that we see in this world?
3. Considering what we have learned about spiritual warfare these past few weeks is there something that God is calling you to do more of in your walk with Him?
4. Read Ephesians 6:13-18. What do these verses teach us about spiritual warfare?
5. Bishop Howell encouraged us to be people who develop a love for justice. Why is it important for Christians to be people who embrace biblical justice? What is the difference between biblical justice and social justice?
6. Read John 8:1-11. Bishop Howell referenced this story in his message this weekend. What do you notice about Jesus' interaction with the woman? What do you notice about his interaction with the teachers of the law and the Pharisees? What do we learn about the justice of God in this story?

Let's Act

We live in a politically divided world. Bishop Howell said, "One can love the elephant. One can love the donkey. But, we love the Lamb – the Lamb of God which took away the sin of the world. We have the greatest love. We have the greatest opportunity to love justice. And, we have the greatest opportunity to love God." As we close, let's read Revelation 2:1-7 together. Let's pray that God would help us to be a church who would grow more in love with Jesus every day. This week, let's take an inventory of our lives. Let's pray and ask God to reveal to us if He is our first love. If not, let's ask Him to help us to grow to love Him with all of our heart, soul, and mind (Matthew 22:37) for this is the first and greatest commandment.

Notes:
