

## Small Group/Sermon Notes based on The War: Part 6

Remember, small groups are primarily for growing closer relationships with other believers. We can learn wonderful things in this environment but keep relationships first.

- Make sure everyone knows each other's names. Have everyone share a little about themselves and how life is going right now.
- **The War: Part 6 "The Full Armor of God: Offense"**
- Which do you prefer, offense or defense?
  - We are not victims who need to be protected. We are more than conquerors!
  - Why do so many Christians have a "victim" mentality? Should they?
- **Ephesians 6:10-18**
  - Two of these are primarily offensive: Shoes of the Gospel of peace, sword of the Spirit.
  - The Gospel is the Good News of Jesus Christ.
    - This is deeper than just individual reconciliation with God, but talk about that.
    - Also, the establishing of the Kingdom of God on earth as it is in Heaven.
  - The Sword of the Spirit is the power of God.
    - Not merely "The Bible," but the Word of God. (v18)
- One of these leans to the intellectual. The other to the spiritual.
  - Are you Jew or Greek? **1 Corinthians 1:22-24.**
    - Do you look for wisdom and look at miracles with skepticism?
    - Do you look for miracles and not bother with figuring it all out?
  - These two are interrelated. One without the other is very incomplete!
- The Readiness that comes from the Gospel of Peace.
  - This one leans toward understanding.
  - NOT the gospel of hate, misery, legalism, complacency, weakness, etc.
    - Have you seen people share the wrong gospel? Explain.
  - Evangelism: **Acts 1:8.**
    - Witness: just tell your story. What has God done for you?
      - Pastor Mike took **2 Corinthians 10:4-5** very seriously.
      - (Argument from the beginning of time, Argument from human equality, Argument from free will.
  - Justice.
    - The Gospel brings justice. Not by vengeance, but through forgiveness.
- The Sword of the Spirit.
  - This one leans toward the miraculous.
  - Yes, YOU need to step into the spirit. Mere intellectualism misses God!
  - Don't miss the presence and power of God because you are content with ideas about God!
    - Have you seen that or do you tend toward that? How can you overcome this?
  - The Bible contains the Word of God for sure. Use it!
  - Being born again. **John 3:5-7.**
    - It isn't just ideas that change us, but the presence and power of God.
  - What are ways people "use" the Sword of the Spirit? (Speaking prophetically over people, praying in tongues. **Romans 8:26.** Signs, wonders, and hearing from God. Etc.)
  - We need miracles in this battle!!!
- God's "secret" weapon is love!
  - The greatest blessings of the Gospel mirror the greatest commandments.
  - **Matthew 22:36-40** show the greatest commandments.
  - The greatest blessings are to be loved by God and to be embraced by a safe loving community.
    - If we obey these commandments we can receive these blessings.
- Pray for each other before you finish up!