

Discussion Questions
Get Real (a “what” or a “who”)
Ephesians 6:10-13

(When in your life have you felt most safe? Explain the details of what helped facilitate that experience of safety. What are you most afraid of and why?)

Scripture reveals that the enemy desires to keep us in life-long bondage through the fear of death.

- Is the thing you are most afraid of linked to death (physical death, spiritual death, death or your ego or something else)?
- In what ways do you try to protect your self, loved ones, belongings, relationships the things that matter most to you from death (of any kind)?
- Can you protect anything permanently from death?

Think about Jesus.

- Do you think He was afraid of death? Explain.
- How does He protect those He loves?
- What does He protect them from? Are they the same things we desire to be protected from?

Read Ephesians 6:1-13 “*Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual (hosts) forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.*”

- When you think about the Lord—Jesus, what is the “strength of his might?” Where does he derive his power from?

Paul tells us:

Put on the armor of God.

- What is God’s armor? What does He clothe Himself with?

We “wrestle *not* against flesh and blood”

- Can you think of any flesh and blood (people) you have been wrestling with internally or externally, recently: In your home life? Work life? Church life? Other social surroundings and get-togethers?
- If we are not to wrestle against flesh and blood, is there anything in this world we should be fighting?
- How do we fight against rulers, authorities, and the cosmic powers over this present darkness—spiritual forces of evil *without* fighting against people—flesh and blood?

“Stand firm.”

- What do you think “stand firm” means?
- Can you think of times in Scripture where God commanded people to “stand”?
- What can you learn about battling the enemy from these examples in Scripture?

In this sermon we heard stories about how God battled against the enemy and His Spirit ministered to people through very simple things like a picture or a piece of cloth.

- Has God ever used something simple, like that, in your life to battle against the enemy or minister to you or someone you know? Share about it.

Faith is trust in a Person. Magic is using knowledge to *control* a person.

- Can you think of any examples when you might have tried to seize God’s power, when you tried to use God like a magic potion rather than simply letting His power flow through you as a result of a relationship with Him?
- Take a moment to share your heart with your Heavenly Father.
In what areas would you like to grow in trusting Jesus? Are there any areas you’d like to relinquish control?