**“Be Ready” Session 3, Be Ready for Spirtual Warfare- Community Group Discussion Guide**

**Icebreakers:**

1. What and who do you think of when you think about spiritual warfare?
2. Have you ever witnessed firsthand a demon being cast out? What was that experience like?
3. How would you describe “demons” to someone who had no understanding?

Read:[***8***](http://biblehub.com/1_peter/5-8.htm)***Be of sober spirit, be on the alert.*** [***9***](http://biblehub.com/1_peter/5-9.htm)***But resist him, firm in your faith 1 Peter 5:8a-9a NASB***

1. What are some practical ways that we can remain self-discplined, awake and vigilant to be able to resist the devil attacks?
2. We are not called to stand firm in our own ideas, but firm in our faith. How does our faith lead us to have victory over the devil’s attacks?

Read:[***8***](http://biblehub.com/1_peter/5-8.htm)***Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. 1 Peter 5:8 NASB***

1. Have you ever seen a lion hunting? How can we learn from nature when it comes to understanding the devil’s schemes?
2. A lion tries to get his prey to isolate itself from the rest of the herd. What does this teach us about the importance of community in dealing with spiritual warfare?
3. The word adversary means a prosecuting attorney arguing a case against us; the word devil means slanderer. What insight does this give us when we try to understand our enemy’s tactics?

Read:[***8***](http://biblehub.com/1_peter/5-8.htm)***Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.*** [***9***](http://biblehub.com/1_peter/5-9.htm)***But resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brethren who are in the world. 1 Peter 5:8-9 NASB***

1. How does the suffering of the saints in other parts of the world provide us with encouragement?

Read: ***For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places. Ephesians 6:12 NASB***

1. The word struggle means a wrestling match or close, hand to hand combat. This is a very personal and intimate battle with darkness that we are all in. Think of your own spiritual battles and how personal they are to you. Share some of those battles and how God has brought you to victory through them.
2. We live in a world where flesh and blood (people) are the primary focus. How can we take these words of Paul to heart to help us understand that there is a spiritual battle that we are really fighting against, and not people?

Read: ***Stand firm therefore, HAVING GIRDED YOUR LOINS WITH TRUTH, and HAVING PUT ON THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS,***[***15***](http://biblehub.com/ephesians/6-15.htm)***and having shod YOUR FEET WITH THE PREPARATION OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE;***[***16***](http://biblehub.com/ephesians/6-16.htm)***in addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.***[***17***](http://biblehub.com/ephesians/6-17.htm)***And take THE HELMET OF SALVATION, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Ephesians 6:14-17 NASB***

**List of armor:**

* Belt of Truth
* Breastplate of righteousness
* Feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace
* Shield of faith
* Helmet of salvation
* Sword of the Spirit

The first three pieces of armor, Paul assumes that we will always have those three on. Which is why he uses the word “having” as if it has already been done. The last three he uses the words “take up” meaning that we take those up when the battle gets hot, and we are on the offensive. How can we make sure that we are always ready to defend or offend against the kingdom of darkness?